



**COUNTY ANTRIM & DISTRICT
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

(comprising the North-East District of the Irish Football Association Ltd.)

OFFICE BEARERS

President:
A. GRAY

Vice-President:
N. MORROW

Hon Treasurer:
M. WILSON
e-mail: treasurer@countyantrimfa.org

Association Secretary:
A. SIMPSON
e-mail: secretary@countyantrimfa.org

Discipline Secretary:
B. THOMPSON
e-mail: discipline@countyantrimfa.org

Competitions Manager:
C. ABBOTT
e-mail: competitions@countyantrimfa.org

www.countyantrimfa.org

**HONORARY OFFICIALS
1888-2024**

CHAIRMEN

(Post re-designated President in 1985)

No Permanent Chairman Elected.....	1888-1898
G. D. JENKINS	1898-1912
R. ERVINE.....	1912-1916
J. M. SMALL	1916-1943
F. J. COCHRANE	1943-1966
T. MOORHEAD.....	1966-1967
W. CARLISLE	1967-1985

PRESIDENTS

H. A. JOHNSTONE.....	1985-1989
D. CRAWFORD.....	1989-1991
J. R. W. BOYCE	1991-1993
B. K. McGAUGHEY	1993-1995
G. F. W. McILRATH	1995-1997
T.E. PATEMAN.....	1997-1999
B. H. DUNLOP.....	1999-2001
S. J. SHAW.....	2001-2004
F.G. MAGEE	2004-2006
B. REID.....	2006-2008
J.T. HAMILTON.....	2008-2010
R. HAWORTH.....	2010-2012
C. WILSON.....	2012-2016
R. FENTON.....	2016-2018
J. JESS.....	2018-2020
C. LAMONT CBE.....	2020-2022
B.F ADAMS.....	2022-2024
A GRAY.....	2024-

HON. TREASURERS

J. WILLIAMSON	1888-1890
W. S. NUGENT.....	1890-1912
R. G. MOFFETT	1912-1915
J. M. SMALL	1915-1916
J. STRANGE.....	1916-1919
W. H. STEWART	1919-1929
F. J. COCHRANE	1929-1943
J. FITZPATRICK	1943-1949
T. ARMSTRONG.....	1949-1961
J. A. McMASTER.....	1961-1964
T. A. LOGAN.....	1964-1971
H. A. JOHNSTONE.....	1971-1978
D. McKEAGUE	1978-1985
D. J. MARTIN.....	1985-1998
J. T. HAMILTON.....	1998-2005
M. WILSON.....	2005-

LIFE MEMBERS

B. F. ADAMS BEM
J.R.W. BOYCE OBE
A. CAUGHEY
S. COX
K. CRAIG
B. DUMIGAN
G. GILLESPIE
W. HAMILTON
S. HANNA
T. McCANN
D. McKEAGUE
N. WRIGHT
G. LATIMER
M. SMYTH
J. GREER
D.G. SCOTT
M.A O'NEILL MBE
T.E PATEMAN
M. MULLIGAN
R. HAWORTH
D. J. MARTIN
M. MARTIN
C. WILSON
R. DOHERTY
J. T. HAMILTON
F. MAGEE MBE

**COUNCIL
SEASON 2024-25**

SENIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Stephen Shaw(Linfield FC)

Vice-Chairman:

Michael Long(Crusaders FC)

George Walsh(Cliftonville FC)

Gabriella Lowe.....(Dundela FC)

Gareth Clements..... (Larne FC)

Brian Adams BEM.....(Ards FC)

Andy Sloan..... (Carrick Rangers FC)

Trevor McCann.....(Ballyclare Comrades)

WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP COMMITTEE

Chair:

Claire Anne Mills.....(Ballymena United Women)

Vice-Chair:

Cheryl Lamont CBE.....(Glentoran Women)

Media Officer: ALL

Neil Morrow(Linfield Ladies)

David Lynn(Ballyclare Comrades Ladies)

STEEL AND SONS CUP COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Robert Fenton(Ballynure OB)

Vice-Chairman:

David Morrow(Saintfield United)

Media Officer:

John Duffy(Lisburn Distillery)

Patricia McCullough(Ards Rangers)

Alistair Gray(Dromara Village)

Michael Preston(Dundonald FC)

Dee Heron(Killyleagh YC)

John Morgan(Belfast Celtic)

Conrad Kirkwood(Abbey Villa)

Brian White(Barn United)

Jim Shaw(Sirocco Works FC)

Sean Murphy.....(Crumlin United)

JUNIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD COMMITTEE

Chairman:
Bobbie Reid

Vice-Chairman: Martin Sloan

Media Officer:

NOMINATIONS TO COMMITTEE

BALLYMENA & PROVINCIAL JUNIOR LEAGUE

C. McCormick (Ballynure OB)

BALLYMENA SATURDAY MORNING LEAGUE

D. King (Carniny Amateur & Youth)

B. Montgomery (Steadfast)

BELFAST & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE

G. Evans (Berlin Swifts)

M. Mulligan (Albion Star)

DOWN AREA WINTER FOOTBALL LEAGUE

S. McCoy (Holywood III)

I. Frazer (Comber YM)

A. Robinson (Newtownards RBL)

NEWCASTLE & DISTRICT AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

M. Sloan (Ballynahinch Olympic Town)

B. Reid (Ballynahinch United Swifts)

THE NORTHERN AMATEUR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Vacant (Vacant)

M. Mezza (Malachians II)

T. Pateman (18th Newtownabbey II)

G. Reynolds (Finaghy FC II)

S. Carlisle (Orangefield OB FC II)

NORTHERN IRELAND FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Vacant (Vacant)

**COMMITTEES
SEASON 2024-25**

Emergency Committee

G Clements, G Walsh,
B. White, J Morgan, M Mezza, B. Reid, D Lynn, CA Mills

Finance Committee

S. Shaw, D Morrow,
T McCann, B Reid, M Mezza, S. J. Shaw, N Morrow, CA Mills

Referees Committee

A Gray, D Heron, M Long, D King, T McCann, N Morrow, D Lynn

Direct Representatives to Irish F.A. Council

D King, G Reynolds, C Kirkwood, R Fenton, R Doherty

Additional Representatives to Irish F.A. Council

B White, A Robinson, D Morrow, G Evans, I Frazer,
S Murphy, M Sloan, P McCullough

**Additional Representatives to Irish F.A. Council
(Articles 8.2.3 & 8.2.4)**

D Lynn, N Morrow

Association Representative to Irish F.A. Football Committee

I Frazer

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

1888 – 2024

(Association Chairman as per page 2 Presided at all meetings until 1985)

SENIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD COMMITTEE

1985-87	W. Sharkey	(Linfield)
1987-89	J. K. Pritchard	(Larne)
1989-91	R. B. Andrews	(Cliftonville)
1991-93	W. Scott	(Distillery)
1993-95	G. F. W. McIlrath	(Ballymena Utd)
1995-97	K. Craig	(Crusaders)
1997-99	T. McCann	(Ballyclare Comrades)
1999-01	A. I. Foster, MBE	(Linfield)
2001-03	D. Kirkwood	(Cliftonville)
2003-04	D. Gibson	(Distillery)
2004-06	R. Hutchinson	(Larne)
2006-08	J. Parkinson	(Glentoran)
2008-10	J. Greer	(Lisburn Distillery)
2010-12	R. Millar	(Crusaders)
2012-14	P. Treanor	(Cliftonville)
2014-16	J. Moore	(Glentoran)
2016-18	R. Millar	(Crusaders)
2018-21	B. Adams BEM	(Ards FC)
2021-23	T. McCann	(Ballyclare Comrades)
2023-	S. Shaw	(Linfield FC)

STEEL & SONS CUP COMMITTEE

1985-86	S. M. Jefferson	(Dunmurry Rec)
1986-87	J. Gray	(Ballymena United Reserves)
1987-88	R. L. Haslett	(Short Bros.)
1988-89	D. Crawford	(Linfield Swifts)
1989-90	S. J. Shaw	(Standard Tel. & Cables)
1990-91	J. R. W. Boyce	(Cliftonville Oly.)
1991-92	M. Chambers	(Barn United)
1992-93	B. H. Dunlop	(R.U.C.)
1993-94	K. J. McMullan	(1st Bangor O.B.)
1994-95	F. G. Magee MBE	(H & W Welders)
1995-96	G. Gillespie	(Drumaness Mills)
1996-97	A. Caughey	(Brantwood)
1997-98	D. J. Martin	(Downshire Y.M.)
1998-99	R.E. Rutherford	(Bangor Reserves)
1999-00	R.M.S. Martin	(Saintfield United)
2000-01	W. Kennedy	(Linfield Swifts)
2001-02	A. Gray	(Dromara Village)
2002-03	J.R.W. Boyce	(Cliftonville Olympic)
2003-04	W.J.C. Wilson	(Islandmagee)
2004-05	W. McIlroy B.E.M.	(Cullybackey)
2005-06	S.J. Shaw	(Nortel)
2006-07	B. H. Dunlop	(PSNI)
2007-08	G. Gillespie	(Drumaness Mills)
2008-09	F.G. Magee MBE	(H&W Welders)
2009-10	D.J. Martin	(Downshire YM)
2010-11	J. Duffy	(Lisburn Distillery II)
2011-12	M. Martin	(Saintfield United)
2012-13	B. Stewart	(Dundela)
2013-14	A. Gray	(Dromara Village)
2014-15	R. Fenton	(Ballynure OB)
2015-16	C. Wilson	(Islandmagee)
2016-17	A. Stacey	(Dundela)

2017-18 C Kirkwood..... (Abbey Villa)
 2018-19 B White.....(Barn United)
 2019-21 S.J. Shaw.....(Sirocco Works FC)
 2021-22 D Heron.....(Killyeagh FC)
 2022-24 M Preston.....(Dundonald FC)
 2024- R Fenton.....(Ballynure OB)

JUNIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD COMMITTEE

1985-89 J. A. McGorman B.E.M.(10th O.B.)
 1989-92 T. E. Pateman(Kilroot Rec.)
 1992-94 J. D. Fry.....(22nd O.B.)
 1994-97 B. F. Adams(Abbey Villa II)
 1997-99 S. Cox(Seahill)
 1999-01 B. Reid.....(Ballynahinch United III)
 2001-03 D.J. Keenan.....(Donard Hospital II)
 2003-05 R. Haworth.....(Annalong Rangers)
 2005-07 M. Wilson(8th Old Boys)
 2007-09 J.T. Hamilton.....(Short Bros. II)
 2009-11 C. Kirkwood(Abbey Villa III)
 2011-13 J Jess.....(Ardoyne WMC)
 2013-14 J Higgins.....(Kelvin OB)
 2015-17 S McCoy.....(Abbey Villa III)
 2017-20 D King(FC Penarol)
 2020-22 M Mezza(Malachians II)
 2022-24 I Frazer(Comber YM)
 2024- B. Reid.....(Ballynahinch United Swifts)

WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP COMMITTEE

2013 C Lamont CBE.....(Glentoran Belfast United)
 2014-16 N Morrow.....(Linfield Ladies)
 2016- 18 D Lynn.....(Carnmoney Ladies)
 2018-21 N Morrow.....(Linfield Ladies)
 2021-23 D Lynn.....(Ballyclare Comrades Ladies)
 2023- CA Mills.....(Ballymena United Women)

MEETING DATES: SEASON 2024/25

	8 July 2024	19 August	10 September	24 September	15 October	4 November	19 November	27 November	2 December	7 Jan 2025	3 February	3 March	7 April	12 May	2 June
COUNCIL		✓		✓				✓				✓		AGM	✓
SENIOR SHIELD		✓		✓		✓			✓					✓	
STEEL & SONS	✓		✓			✓		✓			✓			✓	
JUNIOR SHIELD		✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WOMEN'S CUP			✓		Late 2024 and early 2025 dates to be confirmed							✓			
FINANCE				✓						✓		✓			✓
REFEREES				✓				✓			✓				✓

N.B: On Council dates, Junior Shield will follow Council meetings. On nights where the business for Junior Shield is very busy, dates may change with approval of Chair (members will have at least 7 days' notice of any changes)

✓ indicates meeting date

■ indicates competition draw date

NB: Christmas Buffet on Wednesday, 27 November 2024

**RULES
OF THE COUNTY ANTRIM & DISTRICT
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

Title of the Association:

1 This Association shall be called the "COUNTY ANTRIM and DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION".

Affiliation I.F.A. Ltd.

2 This Association shall be affiliated to the Irish Football Association Ltd., in terms of their Articles of Association;

Election of Clubs (Teams)

3 All Clubs playing under Association Rules having their grounds situated within the North-East District of the Divisional Scheme of the Irish Football Association, Ltd., shall be eligible for membership, subject to the approval of the Council of this Association, (which shall be devolved to the Association Secretary unless a specific issue arises) and the Council of the I.F.A., Ltd. Voting shall be by ballot, if demanded. A majority of two-thirds of the members present and voting shall be necessary for election.

Annual Affiliation & Club Return

4 (a) The affiliation shall currently be £8.00 for each application submitted; payable before the team plays affiliated football. All such affiliations shall be paid by 1st September, save that the affiliation of a Women's team shall be paid by the following 1st March.

Penalty for Affiliations unpaid

(b) Any Club whose affiliation remains unpaid shall not be allowed to compete in any competition of this Association, or to send Representatives to any Meetings of the Association. Any such Club whose affiliation is unpaid on the relevant due date, shall have its membership of this Association suspended and will be subject to further sanctions as laid down in the relevant IFA Article.

Club Return

5 (a) Application must be made on an annual basis via the Official Online Application Form specifying the name of the club, name and address of Secretary, club colours and the situation of its ground, stating whether its ground is public or private. Each team within a club must submit a separate application.

(b) Annual affiliation must be forwarded and shall include the affiliation to the Irish Football Association (currently £17.00) collected by the Divisional Association as per article 4 of the Irish Football Association Limited. Clubs will be required to keep minutes of their meetings showing names and dates of election of members.

Accounts

6 (a) The Hon. Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Association and keep regular accounts of same. The Treasurer shall submit statements of receipt and disbursements to the Annual General meeting or to the Council at any time, if so requested by them.

(b) The funds of the Association shall be lodged in such bank as may be approved of by the Council. All payments above £300.00 shall be submitted to the Finance Committee, and, if approved, be paid. All payments shall be signed/approved by the Hon. Treasurer and either the President or Vice President. The Hon Treasurer's statement shall be audited and a certified copy thereof sent to each club at least one week prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Council may order intermediate audits at any time. The appointment of Auditors shall be made at the Annual General Meeting.

Mode of Checking Receipts

7 (a) All cash gate receipts shall be checked at the conclusion of the game by a minimum of two members of Council, who shall certify the correctness of the same, and at the first meeting of the Finance Committee thereafter a report of the receipts shall be made and inserted in the minutes. In the event that the Hon. Treasurer is unable to attend, they shall be responsible for the nomination of a replacement from Council to complete this role..

(b) In Association competitions, non-payment of gate/ticket receipts by the deadlines specified for either the home or away teams shall result in an automatic increase of 10% of the monies due for up to 7 days late payment and 20% between 7 to 14 days late payment. All other cases shall be referred to the relevant competition committee who will deal with the matter as they consider appropriate.

Annual General Meeting

8 (a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the 31st May at such place as the Council may determine. One week's notice in writing shall be given of such meeting. One representative from each team in membership of the Association, together with the President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer of the Association shall be entitled to attend Annual General Meetings and shall be entitled to one vote. A person shall not represent more than one team.

(b) The representatives of 15 members shall constitute a quorum. If within half-an-hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place.

Special General Meeting

9 Special general meetings may be called by the President, Vice President & Hon Treasurer as they deem necessary. A Special General Meeting may also be called by a simple majority of the elected Council members of the Association. In addition, a Special general meeting will be called if requested by a minimum of 25 members of the Association. Such requests must be submitted to the Association Secretary in writing, specifying the basis for holding such meeting. Notice of such meeting will be given to members not later than seven days prior to the meeting.

Council Meetings

10 The Council shall meet at such times and places as they shall determine. The President or Secretary may call a meeting at any time. Council members shall receive if possible, at least two clear days' notice of all meetings.

Secretary and Committees

11 The Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings of the Council and present a report of the season's work at the Annual General Meeting.

Honorary Officers

12 The elected Office Bearers shall be the President, the Vice President and Honorary Treasurer. The Offices of President, Vice President and Treasurer shall be filled at the first Council Meeting after the Annual General Meeting. The President and Vice President must be members of Council at the time of their election. No person shall serve in the role of President or Vice President for more than a total of two years, commencing from the date of their election unless otherwise determined by Council. Nominations for the Office of Honorary Treasurer, proposed by two clubs in membership of the association, must be received in writing by the Secretary not later than 31st March. The Secretary shall place the names of all nominees on the agenda for the Council Meeting. An Office Bearer may be re-elected to the post currently held even if they are no longer a member of Council. No person shall hold two offices.

Council

13 The general business of the Association shall be conducted by a Council comprising:

- (i) The President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer;
- (ii) Eight elected representatives from senior clubs taking part in the Senior Challenge Shield;
- (iii) Twelve elected representatives from Clubs taking part in the Steel and Sons Cup Competition;
- (iv) Sixteen elected representatives from Junior Clubs; and
- (v) Four elected representatives from Women's clubs taking part in the Women's Challenge Cup Competition.

- (vi) Council shall co-opt a Representative from any league not entitled by Rules 15 to 18 which qualifies for a Representative to the Irish FA Council under the Irish FA Council Article as in the Articles of Association. As such members will be representing the Association, their nomination to the Irish FA will be at the discretion of the Co Antrim & District FA Council.

Seven shall form a quorum at Council Meetings. The President shall have a vote as a member as well as a casting vote in case of a tie. Any elected representative absent from three consecutive meetings of the Council or any committee of the same without satisfactory reason shall be removed from the Council and from all committees to which they have been elected.

Appointment of Representatives

14 The council shall appoint Representatives to the I.F.A.,Ltd., or Delegates to any conference of Association, such Representatives or Delegates to be members of the Council.

Senior Challenge Shield Committee

15 A meeting of the nominated Representatives of the Senior Clubs shall be held after the Annual General Meeting to elect a Committee of eight to conduct the Senior Challenge Shield Competition (minimum of 4 Premier League clubs). Three shall form a quorum. The Committee shall, at their first meeting after the A.G.M. elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to act for the year. The names and addresses of the persons nominated to represent a club shall be notified to the Secretary on the Affiliation form. Only such representatives will be eligible for election to the committee.

Steel and Sons Cup Competition

16 A meeting of the nominated representatives of the Steel and Sons clubs shall be held after the A.G.M. to elect a Committee of twelve to conduct the Steel and Sons Cup Competition. Five shall form a quorum. The Committee shall, at its first meeting, elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to act for the year. The names and addresses of the persons nominated to represent a club shall be notified to the Secretary on the Affiliation Form. Only such representatives will be eligible for election to the Committee.

Junior Challenge Shield Committee

17 A committee of sixteen representatives of Junior Teams will conduct the Junior Challenge Shield Competition and be responsible for the other duties detailed in rule 26. Each League having a membership of at least twenty clubs, and with a minimum of six clubs competing in the Junior Challenge Shield, shall be entitled to representatives on the Junior Shield committee in proportion to the total number of teams registered by the League with the Association during the previous season. The Association Secretary will advise such Leagues Secretaries as to the number of representatives they may nominate to attend the first meeting of the committee to be held before the end of June. The committee at its first meeting will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to act for the Year. Five shall form a quorum.

Women's Challenge Cup Committee

18 A meeting of nominated representatives of the Women's Challenge Cup clubs shall be held in March annually to elect a committee of four to conduct the Women's Challenge Cup Competition and be responsible for the other duties detailed in Rule 26. Three shall form a quorum. The committee shall, at its first meeting, elect a Chair and Vice-Chair to act for the year. The names and addresses of the persons nominated to represent a club shall be notified to the secretary on the affiliation form. Only such representatives will be eligible for election to the committee.

Emergency Committee

19 An Emergency Committee comprising two members from each of the Senior Challenge Shield, the Steel and Sons Cup, the Junior Challenge Shield and the Women's Challenge Cup Committees shall be elected by the Council at the first Council meeting after the Annual General Meeting with Council powers to act between regular meetings should any question arise requiring their services. Three shall form a quorum.

Finance Committee

20 A Finance Committee comprising two members from each of the Senior Challenge Shield, the Steel and Sons, the Junior Challenge Shield and the Women's Challenge Cup Committees shall be elected by the Council at the first Council meeting after the Annual General Meeting to deal with all questions of finance and to report periodically to the Council on the state of the Association accounts. Three shall form a quorum.

Referees Committee

21 A Referees' Committee comprising two members from each of the Senior Challenge Shield, the Steel and Sons Cup, the Junior Challenge Shield and the Women's Challenge Cup Committees shall be elected by the Council at the first Council meeting after the Annual General Meeting to deal with all questions concerning referees. Three shall form a quorum.

Vacancies in Offices or Committees

22 Should a vacancy occur during the year in any of the posts of Office Bearer the Council may elect a successor. In the event of a vacancy occurring in a Committee, such Committee may co-opt a successor.

Voting

23 No members of any Committee shall take part in or vote in any matter affecting themselves or any club which they represent or with which they are connected.

Ballot

24 In taking a vote on any question, any member of the Council may demand a vote by ballot, which shall be granted.

Life Membership

25 (a) Any member of council having **ten (10)** years' service or more, on retirement from the Association, shall be made a life member.

(b) A member of Council, who served as an office bearer shall, on retirement from the Association, be made a Life Member.

(c) The Council shall have power to award life membership in exceptional cases to individuals who have not served on the Association Committees.

Field Offences

26 In addition to the management of their respective competitions the Junior Challenge Shield and the Women's Challenge Cup Committees shall be responsible for investigating charges against players and clubs for misconduct or violation of the laws of the game. Both Committees shall have power to impose suspensions on players for field offences etc. and to impose fines on the clubs to which the players belong or take such other action as they consider appropriate having regard to the seriousness of the offence. The rule also covers misconduct by officials of the club. The council, if necessary, may appoint some of its members to assist with the disciplinary process where a committee has difficulties with 'conflicts of interest' issues.

Clubs and grounds reserved by Executive for Stated Dates

27 Ground Hire costs for Competition semi finals & Finals will be as follows:

Senior Shield: Semi finals – No hire cost as the first drawn team will have home advantage. Final – Hire fee will be negotiated with host venue.

Steel & Sons: Semi finals & Final – Hire fee will be negotiated with host venue.

Junior Shield: Semi finals & Final – Hire fee will be negotiated with host venue.

Women's Challenge Cup: Semi finals – No hire cost as the first drawn team will have home advantage. Final – Hire fee to be negotiated with host venue.

Fixtures Restricted on date of Shield Final

28 Clubs who are members of the Association must not arrange or play fixtures in the city (or town) on the date on which the Senior Challenge Shield Final tie is played except by the express permission of the Council.

Council admitted to Grounds

29 Each member of the Council (and Life Members) shall be furnished with a ticket (which shall not be transferable), and all Clubs belonging to this Association shall admit the holder to their grounds and stands (except when stands are reserved) upon production of such ticket without requiring any other authority.

Council Veto on Matches with Clubs not recognised

30 No Club, members of this Association, shall play with any Club not members of this or any recognised Association without the permission of the I.F.A., Ltd., and Clubs, members of this Association, shall not play in Competitions promoted by other Divisional Associations without the permission of this Association. A recognised Association is an Association affiliated to the F.I.F.A.

Powers of Council –

31 (a) The Committee, may, as they think just, expel, suspend, fine, or otherwise deal with any Club, any member of a Club, and any player of a Club whose conduct may be deemed objectionable in or connection with any match or fixture in their respective Competitions. **Any complaint under this Rule must be lodged in writing, per special delivery within four days to the Secretary of the Association, accompanied by a deposit of £50, and a copy thereof shall be sent to the alleged offender by the complainant.** If, in the opinion of the Committee the complaint is frivolous, the deposit shall be forfeited.

(b) Members of Council are at liberty to lodge a complaint in writing under this Rule against any Club or member thereof without payment of fee, and the Secretary shall give due notice of same to such Club or Player.

(c) Any matter raised by a member of Council or brought to the attention of a competition committee will be dealt with as the committee sees fit. There will be a limitation on the time for hearing a protest, complaint or dispute. If not dealt with prior to the end of the current season, any complaint, protest or dispute will be deemed null and void.

Rules of Enforcement

32 Each Club shall be furnished with a copy of these rules and shall be bound thereby. The Council may recommend expulsion, suspension, fine, or otherwise deal with any Club or Player whose actions bring the Association into disrepute or who have infringed these Rules and who have not been dealt with by an Association Committee. A special meeting of Council shall be called to consider such matter, with notice of the meeting to be given, in writing, to Council members not later than seven days prior to the meeting. A two-thirds majority of the members present shall be necessary to impose a sanction and voting shall be by paper ballot.

33 (a) All payments in relation to Sponsorship monies will be presented to the relevant Clubs at the Annual Dinner of the Association. In the event that a Club who is due to receive a payment does not attend the Annual Dinner to collect their payment, the full amount due to that Club will be forfeited and will instead be donated to the Association's chosen charity.

(b) Any Club who believes there are exceptional circumstances for their non-attendance at the Annual Dinner, can submit their case in writing to the Secretary of the Association no later than 3 days after the date of the Dinner. The case will be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee of the Association and the Club will receive a written response thereafter.

Alteration to Rules.

34 **Competition Rules:** The Council shall have power to alter or amend Competition rules for each season.

35 **Association Rules:** No alteration shall be made in these rules except at the annual general meeting. Notice of any proposed alteration in these rules must be sent in writing to the Secretary on or before 15th April in each year, and the Secretary shall, at least one week prior to the annual general meeting, inform each club of the proposed alteration. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present, and voting, shall in all cases be necessary to alter the rules of the Association

36 If the Council of the Association decide that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Association it shall call a special meeting of the Association. Three week's notice in writing shall be given of such meeting to all members. At such special meeting, A three quarters majority of the members present shall be necessary in favour of the resolution and voting shall be by paper ballot. Any surplus funds after all outstanding debts have been settled, will be distributed to members. The Finance Committee will oversee and agree the process for distribution in accordance with the relevant established accounting principles

RULES OF THE SENIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD COMPETITION

Definitions

In these Rules, unless the context requires otherwise, terms used have the following meanings:

'Association'	County Antrim & District Football Association
'Club'	A team playing Association Football in Northern Ireland.
'Committee'	The Senior Challenge Shield Committee
'Divisional Association'	The associations governed by Article 11 of the Irish Football Association.
'FIFA'	Fédération Internationale de Football Association.
'IFA'	Irish Football Association
'IFAB'	The International Football Association Board.
'IFA FMS System'	IFA Football Management System
'Laws of the Game'	The Laws of Association Football prescribed by IFAB.
'League'	Any league as governed by the IFA.
'NIFL'	Northern Ireland Football League
'Secretary'	Secretary of the County Antrim & District Football Association
'Senior Club(s)'	Football clubs competing in the NIFL Premiership or Championship
'UEFA'	Union des Associations Européennes de Football.

Index

1. Trophy Name
2. Trustees of Shield
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Trophy Name

1 The Trophy shall be called "The County Antrim and District Football Association Challenge Shield."

Trustees of Shield

2 The President, Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer of the Association shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Shield, in Trust for the Association.

Annual Competition

3 The Competition shall be open to all Senior Clubs affiliated to the Association and such guest clubs as the Senior Shield Committee may invite and which could include the approved Senior Clubs from other Associations.

Entries

4 Entries must be made on the Official Online Affiliation Form and be received by the Secretary of the Association not later than the 30th June of each year and must be accompanied by an entry fee of £20.00 per club.

The following must be clearly stated on the Form:

- i - Whether ground is public or private;
- ii - Situation of ground (in Full);
- iii - Colours of Club shirt, socks & shorts, both their primary colours and their alternative colours;
- iv - Name and Address of Secretary;
- v - Contact telephone number
- vi - email address

In the event of a change of Secretary or any other detail initially recorded on the Official Affiliation Form the same must be notified immediately in writing or by email, to the Association Secretary.

Objection to Field of Play, goal-posts or ball

5 Any objection to the Field of Play, goal-posts or ball must be lodged in with the Referee before the game has started, and the Referee shall have power to have such objections made right before the game starts.

Qualification of Players

6 a. Players will be eligible to play in the Senior Challenge Shield provided that on the date of the tie they are eligible to play for their own club in its League Competition.

b. No individual shall be allowed to play for more than one competing team.

c. Notwithstanding anything in any Rule, if the Senior Challenge Shield Committee in the case of the Senior Challenge Shield, have any doubt at any time, and whether arising out of a protest or otherwise, as to the qualification of any player taking part in the competition, they shall have power to call upon such player and / or Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the rules, and failing satisfactory proof, they shall disqualify such player and shall remove the Club from the Competition, and impose such other penalty as they may think fit.

Competition format

7. a. The competition shall be played on a knockout basis. All ties shall be played to a finish. If at the end of normal playing time the scores are equal then the tie shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions set out in the Laws of the Game.

b. Should the Committee deem necessary, the ballot may be conducted on the basis that clubs may be allocated into two pots. Pot 1 to contain those clubs with adequate floodlights, with Pot 2 containing clubs who do not have adequate floodlighting. In this situation, the ballot will be conducted as follows:

i) A team will be drawn from Pot 1 which will be the home team and a team will be drawn from Pot 2 who will be the away team. The number of draws on this basis will be equivalent to the number of teams initially contained in Pot 2.

ii) Thereafter, teams in Pot 1 will be drawn from that pot, with the first team drawn having home advantage.

iii) Should the Committee determine that it is not necessary to divide competing teams into two pots, then the draw will follow the principle as set out in 7b ii).

c. In principle, the Club that is first drawn in the ballot shall play at their registered home venue in all matches up to and including the semi-finals. However, the first drawn Club may forfeit home advantage with the agreement of their opponents. and in such circumstances written confirmation of same must be notified to the secretary by both clubs in writing or by email not later than three (3) days following the date of the relevant draw.

d. Should a match be postponed twice at the registered ground of the first drawn club the Senior Shield Committee reserve the right to switch the tie to the registered ground of their opponents on a date to be determined by the Committee.

e. In the event of only one of the clubs drawn in any tie having approved floodlights, the match shall be played at that ground. The Senior Shield Committee reserve the right to request such certification on request.

f. The Committee may appoint Match Observers to all or some of the ties in each round as they see fit. Any club objecting to or refusing to accept the appointment of a Match Observer to their tie shall be dealt with as the Committee may determine.

g. The host Club of the host stadium shall have responsibility for all match arrangements in regard to safety and security, including ticketing.

h. In the event of a club having two or more players selected to represent their National Association in matches recognised by the FIFA International Calendar or Divisional Association representative team(s) in a competitive fixture they shall be permitted a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such fixtures. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected to represent their National or Divisional Association representative team(s) shall also be permitted a postponement due to the specialist position.

(i) In the event of a club competing in a competitive fixture under the auspices of UEFA (either 'home' or 'away') within 48 hours of a scheduled Senior Shield fixture, the club will be permitted to request the postponement of the Senior Shield fixture. A revised date will be determined by the Senior Shield Committee.

(ii) The Co Antrim FA Senior Shield Committee will determine the venue for the Final of the competition.

Pitch Inspections

8 (a) In case of unfavourable weather conditions or concerns regarding the playing surface the Home Club must request the Co Antrim FA by telephone or by email to the Secretary for an early inspection not later than five hours before kick-off. The Match Referee or an alternative Referee appointed by the Co Antrim FA must inspect the ground at least three hours or more previous to the advertised time of kick-off and shall decide as to the fitness of the ground not later than three hours prior to the pre-arranged time of kick-off, his decision being final after consultation with the Club Secretary and the Co Antrim FA.

(b) No game shall be postponed without an inspection by a referee appointed by the Co Antrim FA.

(c) Notwithstanding the above, in the event of extreme weather conditions the Co Antrim FA Secretary, in consultation with the Senior Shield Committee Chairman, may declare any match or matches postponed without a formal pitch inspection.

(d) Where possible the officially appointed Match Referee should carry out the pitch inspection but if he/she should not be available for an inspection then the Co Antrim FA will appoint an alternative official from a panel approved by the Committee, who will decide on the state of the pitch. If obviously 'playable' he will then declare his decision.

(e) The Referee, Assistant Referees and 4th Official shall be paid half match fee and expenses for a postponed match which they have arrived at and inspected.

Team Sheets

9 (a) Each Club shall input their team line up including the names of players and club officials and their functions taking part in each match (including the name of the nominated substitutes) via the IFA Football Management System not later than 75 minutes prior to kick-off.

(b) The home club shall be responsible for distributing copies of the official team sheet (automatically generated by the IFA FMS System) to both clubs and representatives from the media not later than 45 minutes prior to kick off.

(c) Any club failing to provide such documentation by the stipulated deadlines will be fined in the sum of £50 for each offence.

Substitutes

10 (a) A club may at its discretion use five substitute players at any time in any match, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game by the Referee. The substitutions can be made in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game.

(b) Substitutions may only be made on at most 3 occasions during the game (excluding half time).

(c) Only five substitutions by each side will be permitted in any match and clubs may nominate up to a maximum of seven substitute players prior to the commencement of the match.

(d) A substitute player shall be construed as taking part in the game for which he was nominated only if he has actually played in such game.

11. Replacement of Players on the Team Sheet

After the team sheets have been completed and submitted to the Comet Football Management System, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following shall apply:

a) If any of the first eleven players named on the team sheet are not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced only by any of the seven (7) substitutes named on the confirmed team sheet. The substitute(s) in question can then be replaced by a player(s) not named on the initial team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, five (5) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.

b) If any of the seven (7) substitutes named on the team sheet are not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced by any player not named on the confirmed team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, five (5) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.

c) Any amendments to the team sheet in accordance with points a) and b) above must be communicated to the opposing team manager in the presence of one of the Match Officials as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the match.

Players kit & identification

12 (a) The players in each competing team must wear the registered colours of the Club for which they are playing except when opposing teams have similar colours, in which case the visiting Club shall change theirs. In all other cases the Committee shall decide which team shall change. The colours of the Club shall be taken to be the colours of the shirt or jersey as registered with the Association. A goalkeeper must wear a shirt or jersey of different colour, provided that said shirt or jersey is of a colour distinctive from that of his opponents. Referees shall have power to instruct a player to change a shirt or sweater if he considers the colour not quite distinctive from that of his opponents, and the Referee shall have power to deal with any player refusing to comply with his instructions.

(b) Clubs must confirm their kit colours on IFA FMS System no later than 48 hours before the stated kick off time.

(c) The players shirts must be numbered on the back and must correspond exactly with the instruction input into the IFA FMS system. The team captain shall wear a distinguishing armband to indicate his status. Clubs shall be fined a minimum of £50, for each offence, where they fail to observe this rule.

(d) All clubs must have the availability of a 'blood shirt' which is clearly numbered and is not a number that has been allocated to any squad player.

Match Ball & Goal Nets

13 (a) The match ball to be used in all matches shall be the match ball approved by the NIFL.

(b) Goal nets must be used.

Duration of Match

14 The duration of each match, unless otherwise mutually arranged shall be one-hour and-a-half. The match must be started at the time appointed by the Committee, but no protest will be upheld for late starting unless the Committee are satisfied that the result of the match was affected thereby. The referee shall have power to allow extra time for stoppages, his decision thereon to be final. In all rounds of the competition, including the Final, should scores be level after 90 minutes the tie shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International F.A. Board. If a match has been stopped by the Referee before the completion of the time specified in the rules, for any reason stated in Law 5, the Committee shall have power, either to order the match to be replayed in full or allow the result of the match at the time of such stoppage to stand.

Match Officials

15 (a) The Committee shall appoint the Referee and Assistant Referees. The Committee may also appoint a 4th Official if deemed necessary.

(b) The Match Officials role and duties are as outlined in the guidelines approved by the International F.A. Board. In the event of the Referee or an Assistant Referee having to retire during the progress of the match, the 4th Official will assume responsibility of the referee or the retired Assistant Referee (retired official) to completion.

(c) In all ties previous to the Final, Referees fees and expenses shall be paid at the appropriate rate by the 'home' club.

Ball Tenders

16 (a) The colours of clothing worn by ball tenders must not clash with the colours of either of the competing clubs.

(b) Clubs may utilise a multiball system to the immediate replacement of a matchball when it has left the field of play. Clubs who adopt this procedure must ensure that the system is used consistently for the duration of the match and for both teams, unless directed otherwise by the Referee.

Protests

17 (a) Protests must be received by the Secretary of the Association per Special Delivery bearing post mark within four days after the cause of protest accompanied by a deposit of £50.00.

(b) A copy of the protest must also be sent by Special Delivery to the Club protested against. The certificate of posting of such Special Delivery must bear date stamp within two days after the cause of the protest or appeal and shall be sole proof of date of posting.

Shield holder responsibilities

18 When the winning Club shall have been declared, the Secretary of the Association shall hand the Shield to its representatives on receiving a document to the following effect, and subscribed by four persons whose names shall be previously submitted to, and approved of by the Executive of the Association: –

We, A.B., President of the Y.Z. Club, and C.D., E.F. and G.H., members of and representing the said Club, which has now been declared to have won the County Antrim and District Association Challenge Shield, and the said Shield having been delivered to us by J.K., Secretary of said Association, do hereby, on behalf of said Club, and individually and collectively engage to return the same to the said J.K., or Secretary of the Association for the time being one month before the final in like good order and condition. No party, other than the Secretary of the Association, is authorised to have engraving or similar works undertaken on the trophy.

Division of Receipts

19 (a) In all Competition matches, with the exception of the Semi-final and Final Ties, the receipts (including Stands), after payment of the costs pertaining to match officials, security & stewarding, turnstiles, ambulance/first aid cover and ticketing, shall be equally divided between the two competing clubs. (The home club shall ensure that copies of the receipts for such costs are furnished to the away team upon request). Payment shall be made to the away team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played, except when the match has been designated as an 'all ticket' match. In such circumstances, all revenue generated from the sale of tickets by the away team shall be paid to the home team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played together with a reconciliation of unsold tickets (the home team shall then make payment to the away team within 7 days of receiving such revenue). It is the responsibility of competing clubs to agree existing stadium damage prior to each fixture and the host club must notify this Association, and the relevant club, within 24 hours of any damage caused.

Division of Receipts: Semi-Finals

(b) In the Semi-Final Ties the net receipts shall be divided as follows: – 10 percent to the Association and the balance divided amongst the two competing Clubs; in the case of replayed ties, the Association shall take 10 percent and the remaining portion shall be divided equally between the competing Clubs.

Payment shall be made to both the Association and the away team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played, except when the match has been designated as an 'all ticket' match. In such circumstances, all revenue generated from the sale of tickets by the away team shall be paid to the home team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played together with a reconciliation of unsold tickets (the home team shall then make payment to the away team and the Association within 7 days of receiving such revenue).

Division of Receipts: Final

(c) In the Final tie, after deducting expenses, the remaining portion shall be divided between the Association and the Clubs as follows: – 25 percent. to the Association and the balance equally divided between the teams engaged.

All money generated from the sale of tickets in respect of the final tie must be submitted by the respective clubs to the Association within 7 days following the date of the match together

with a reconciliation of unsold tickets. Non-payment by this deadline will result in penalties described in Association Rule 7(b) being applied.

Admission Charges

20 Attendance admission fee to be set by the home club but should be no greater than the maximum admission fee for their respective league.

Medals or Badges

21 The Association will present medals or other mementoes to the winners and runners-up in the competition each season.

Awards

22 Prize money shall be distributed to participating clubs as determined by the Co Antrim FA Finance Committee annually and shall be subject to sponsorship being secured for the Competition.

Alterations to Rules

23 (a) The Committee shall have power to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules.

(b) In all cases under these Rules Sunday shall not be taken into account in computing the time required in any matter arising out of these Rules.

(c) These rules shall not be altered, annulled, or added to, until after the Final Tie has been played.

Appeals

24 All appeals against a decision of the Co Antrim FA Senior Shield Committee must be made to the IFA in accordance with the relevant IFA Articles of the Association.

Unforeseen circumstances

25 (a) In the event that the competition cannot be completed due to any reason which is outside the control of the Co Antrim FA, the Senior Shield Committee will retain the right to determine how the competition is concluded.

(b) All participating clubs in the competition must follow the safety requirements/protocols relating to Covid19 as laid out by the Irish FA & the Northern Ireland Executive. Any club failing to do so will be dealt with by the Committee.

**RULES
OF THE
STEEL AND SONS CUP COMPETITION**

Name

1. This Competition shall be called "THE STEEL & SONS CUP COMPETITION"

Trustees of Cup

2. The President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer of the Association shall be, for all intents and purpose, the legal owners of the Cup, in trust, for the Association.

Competition

3. The Competition shall be annual and open to Intermediate Clubs approved and affiliated to this Association. Such Clubs must be in membership of Intermediate Leagues sanctioned by the Irish Football Association Ltd.

Entries

4. Entry for permission to compete in the competition shall be made online via Comet FMS, not later than 30 June and shall be accompanied by an entry fee of £10.00. It shall be the sole responsibility of clubs to enter in order to participate in the competition. This application shall affect a club for one season only.

The following details must be clearly stated on the Form.

i Whether ground is shared and, if so, with whom and who has primacy.

ii Present League

iii Situation of ground (in Full).

iv Colours of Club shirt, shorts & socks.

v Name and Address of Secretary

vi Contact telephone numbers

vii email address

In the event of a change of Secretary or any other detail initially recorded on the Official Affiliation Form the same must be notified immediately in writing to the Association Secretary.

Grounds

5 (a) Note:- Ground must be that on which the Club play league fixtures and be approved by the IFA Intermediate Committee as being suitable for Intermediate standard football.

(i) The home club shall be responsible at all times for the safety of the players, officials and spectators and the facilities should reflect this obligation.

(ii) The home Club must be able to lift or collect gate receipts.

A club drawn at home, whose ground is unavailable for any reason, shall travel to the ground of the opposition. If the opponents' ground is not available, the tie shall be played at a time and venue to be determined by the Committee. All matches in the competition must be played on the ground of a club affiliated to the County Antrim & District Football Association.

(b) Where a registered ground is available it will not be necessary for the visiting Club to receive any other notification, but if the registered ground is not available then the team drawn at home must notify their opponents and the Association within 24 hours of the draw being received that the match is being transferred to their opponents' ground.

(c) In the event of one of the competing Clubs lodging an objection that the ground of its opponents does not meet the required standard, the Steel & Sons Cup Committee shall investigate and decide the outcome. The objection must be lodged with the Secretary of the Association at least 5 days prior to the date fixed for the match (in drawn games 48 hours) accompanied by a deposit of £100.00 to cover expenses. In the event of the objection not being sustained, the deposit will be forfeited, but should the objection be sustained the Club objected against shall be required to refund same through the Secretary of the Association

previous to the Tie being played. No protest will be entertained after a match as to the standard of the ground provided there has been sufficient time to enable Clubs to take advantage of this Rule. Objections, under this Rule, must be sent to the Secretary of the Association by special delivery and must be submitted by the Registered Secretary of the Club.

(d) Goal nets must be used in all cup ties. Any objection to ground, goalposts, or ball, must be lodged in writing by a responsible Club Official with the Referee before the game is started, and the Referee shall have power to have such objections made right before the game starts.

(e) In the event of unfavourable weather conditions, the home club must contact the County Antrim Football Association to organise a referee's inspection not later than four (4) hours before kick-off. The match referee or an alternative referee appointed by the CAFA must inspect the ground at least three (3) hours or more previous to the advertised time of kick-off and shall decide as to the fitness of the ground, his/her decision being final after consultation with the Club Secretary and the County Antrim Football Association.

Only a referee appointed by the County Antrim Football Association shall have the power to postpone a tie having taken due cognizance of local advice and the travelling team and supporters.

In the event of the home club failing to request an early inspection the committee shall be empowered to grant compensation to the other club for actual expenses incurred for such match.

Should the match referee deem the ground unfit for play then he/she shall be paid half the match fee and travelling expenses actually incurred by the home club.

(f) In all rounds up to the Semi-Final, if ground conditions are such that the match does not take place on the scheduled date, or is to be replayed following abandonment, the Clubs shall play on or before the next available Saturday. In such cases, should both clubs agree, the home club may obtain an alternative approved ground of Senior or Intermediate status to enable the match to be played under floodlights.

(g) In the case of exceptional circumstances, the Committee may permit postponement of a tie and will determine the date that the match is to be played

(h) County Antrim FA cannot be held responsible for any damages to third parties resulting from the use of artificial turf.

Qualification of Players

6. Players will be eligible to play in the competition provided that, on the date of the tie, they are eligible to play for their own club in its League competition and have been registered on or before 31 August of that season. No player who is registered by his club after 31 August shall be eligible to participate in this competition in that same season. For the avoidance of doubt any player signed after the 31 August in the current season (including 'Out of Contract Professional') shall not be eligible to participate in the competition.

Limitations of Qualifications

7. (a) A player shall be ineligible to compete in the Steel and Sons Cup Competition if he has:

- I. played in the current or previous 3 seasons in a senior International Match
- II. played in more than 12 matches in Senior Competitions during the current season (a senior match being a match in one of the recognised 'senior' competitions – ie NIFL Premiership and Championship, Irish Challenge Cup, NIFL League Cup, Co Antrim Shield, Mid Ulster Cup, North West Challenge Cup) during the current season except if player has taken part in such senior match/es as a player for an Intermediate club.
- III. competed in any National Association Cup Tie (Senior or Intermediate) during the current season (this proviso does not apply to I.F.A. Cup Competitions)
- IV. played in the winning team in the final Tie of a National Association Senior Cup Competition (including the Irish Cup) during the previous season, but a player who has

played in a winning team in the Irish Cup during the previous season whilst playing for a Junior team which took part by virtue of a Qualifying Competition or by invitation shall be permitted to play.

No individual shall be allowed to play for more than one competing Club in any one season. In all cases, a player named as substitute and not called upon to play, shall not be considered as having played.

(b) Notwithstanding anything in any rule if the Steel and Sons Cup Committee have any doubt at any time, whether arising out of a protest or otherwise, as to the qualification of any player taking part in the Competition, they shall have the power to call upon such player, or the Club to which he belongs, or for which he has played, to prove he is qualified according to the rules, and failing satisfactory proof, they shall disqualify such player and shall remove the Club from the competition and impose such penalty as they may think fit. In such circumstances the Committee shall have the power to reinstate the defeated team to the competition in the event that the following round has not yet taken place.

Notification of Draw Etc.

8. (a) Immediately after each drawing, the Secretary of the Association shall intimate to each of the Clubs drawn, the name of the Clubs and the time within which the Tie is to be played. The complete draw will be sent to each club taking part, giving particulars of colours and registered grounds. (If there is a clash of colours the home team must change).

(b) If a Club or Clubs gets a bye in any round (other than the preliminary round) it must play in the next succeeding round.

(c) Any Club refusing or failing to play the Club against which it has been drawn on the date fixed by the Committee and without a sufficient reason for so doing, shall be adjudged to have lost the match and otherwise dealt with as the Committee may determine, except in the case of a Club being ordered to play a Cup Tie match of the I.F.A. on such date. The Committee in this instance will fix a date on which the tie must be played.

(d) Any Club intending to scratch must give notice to the Secretary of the Association, also the Secretary of the opposing Club. Such notices must be received at least 4 days before the date of kick-off. Any club failing to conform to this Rule shall be dealt with by the Committee, which shall have power to compel offending Club to pay such expenses or take such action as may be deemed expedient.

(e) Clubs in agreement and wishing to play on the Sunday following the specified date must advise the Secretary of the Association not less than six days prior to the agreed date.

(f) In the event of a club having two or more players selected to represent their National or Regional Association representative team(s) in a competitive fixture they shall be permitted a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected to represent their National or Regional Association representative team(s) shall also be permitted a postponement due to the specialist position.

Referees Team Sheet

9. Each competing team shall enter the full names of the players on the team sheet and confirm the line-up via Comet FMS at least 60 minutes before the scheduled kick off time. Players' names must correspond with the numbers assigned on the official team sheet. The Club Comet user shall be considered to have verified the accuracy of the information provided upon confirming the line up in Comet FMS.

Any club not completing the Team Sheet in the prescribed manner shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £25.00. It shall be at the Committee's discretion whether or not such Club should be allowed to remain in the competition.

Substitutes

10. A Club may, at its discretion, use three substitute players at any time in any match, except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the Referee. The substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. Only three substitutions by each side will be permitted in any match. The maximum number of substitutes permitted to be nominated by each side is five and must be nominated prior to the commencement of the match.

Replacement of Players on the Team Sheet

11. After the team sheets have been completed and submitted to the Comet Football Management System, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following shall apply:

a) If any of the first eleven players named on the team sheet are not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced only by any of the five (5) substitutes named on the confirmed team sheet. The substitute(s) in question can then be replaced by a player(s) not named on the initial team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three (3) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.

b) If any of the five (5) substitutes named on the team sheet are not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced by any player not named on the confirmed team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three (3) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.

c) Any amendments to the team sheet in accordance with points a) and b) above must be communicated to the opposing team manager in the presence of one of the Match Officials as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the match.

Colours

12. (a) The players in each competing team must wear the registered colours of the Club for which they are playing, except when opposing teams have similar colours, in which case the home team must change; in all other* cases the Committee shall decide which team(s) must change. A goalkeeper must wear a shirt or jersey of different colour, provided that such shirt or jersey is a colour distinctive from that of the opponents, and the Referee shall have power to deal with any player refusing to comply with this instruction. * Example: Semi-Finals and Finals.

Numbering of Shirts and Jerseys

(b) The shirt, jersey or shorts of each player must be numbered in accordance with the normal practice.

Duration of Match

13. (a) The duration of each match, unless otherwise mutually arranged, shall be 90 minutes. The match must be started at the time appointed by the Committee, but no protest will be upheld for late starting, unless the Committee is satisfied that the result of the match was affected thereby. The Referee shall have power to allow extra time for stoppages, his decision thereon to be final. The Committee shall have power to instruct Clubs to play extra time in any match or matches where it may be considered desirable.

(b) In all rounds of the competition, including the Final, should scores be level after 90 minutes, the tie shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International F.A. Board.

In the case of protested ties the Committee shall decide the dates and venues.

Venues for Semi Finals and Final

14. In the Semi-Finals and Final, the venue shall be chosen by the Committee and shall be neutral unless otherwise determined by the Committee who may, upon request, permit the match or matches to be played at the registered home venue of either of the participating teams.

Abandoned Game

15. If a match has been stopped by the Referee before the completion of the time specified in the Rules, for any reason stated in Law 5, the Committee shall have power to deal with the matter as they may determine. Read Law 5 (Laws of the Game)

Referees and Assistant Referees

16. (a) The competing clubs in all but the Semi-Final and Final Ties shall appoint the Assistant Referees unless otherwise arranged by the Committee. The Committee shall appoint the Referee who shall have power to dispense with the services of the Assistant Referees in case he finds one giving decisions at variance with the facts.

(b) The Referee shall not be a member of either of the competing Clubs and in the case of the Semi-Final and Final Ties neither shall the Assistant Referees nor the Fourth Official.

(c) On points of fact connected with the play, over which the Assistant Referees have control, their decision shall be given by flags. The Referee must use a whistle. On any question as to the interpretation of the Rules, an appeal may be made to the Committee of the Association, but the Referee's decision must be acted on in the field although under protest.

(d) Travelling expenses are payable in accordance with agreed IFA rates.

Protests

17. (a) Protests and Appeals must be received by the Secretary of the Association per SPECIAL DELIVERY bearing postmark within two days (Sundays not included) after cause of protest or appeal, accompanied by a deposit of £100 which shall be forfeited in the event of protest not being sustained. A copy of the protest or appeal must also be sent by special delivery, to the Club protested against. The Certificate of posting of such SPECIAL DELIVERY must bear date stamp within two days after cause of protest or appeal and shall be the sole proof of posting. Protests or appeals are only in order if submitted by the Registered Secretary of the Club.

(b) Any team playing an in-eligible player or players, whether through non registration or otherwise, will be fined £25 for each in-eligible player played. In the case of a protest being upheld against a club which has won a match by any violation of rule then that club will be removed from the competition for the current season. Particulars of protest must include written proof of any allegation of violation of this rule, supported if necessary, by eye witness account. If the protest is upheld then the protesting club, if they lost the match in question, may be reinstated in the current season's competition.

Appeals against Decisions of the Steel & Sons Cup Committee

18. All appeals against a decision of the Steel & Sons Cup Committee must be made to the IFA in accordance with the relevant IFA Articles of the Association.

Division of Receipts

19. (a) In rounds prior to the Semi-Finals the home team shall take the receipts and pay the fees of the match officials. Where a game is reversed to the opposition by the club drawn first, the game will be considered a home game for the host club.

(b) In the Semi-Final Ties the net receipts shall be divided as follows:- 10% to the Association and the balance divided amongst the four Clubs engaged.

(c) In the final Tie, after deduction of expenses the remaining portion shall be divided thus:- 33% to the Association and the balance equally divided between the Clubs engaged.

(d) Committee is at liberty to withhold monies from receipts in respect of reported damage or similar costs.

(e) All money generated from the sale of tickets in respect of semi-final and final ties must be submitted by the respective clubs to the Association within 7 days following the date of the

match together with a reconciliation of unsold tickets. Non-payment by this deadline will result in penalties described in Association Rule 7(b) being applied.

Agreement for Cup

20. It shall be the responsibility of the winning club to return the cup to the Association on or before the 1st day of November or earlier if so requested by the Association. The winning club shall return the cup in good or like condition and shall be liable for any costs in the event that the cup is destroyed by fire, or lost, or damaged by any other accident whilst in the possession of the club.

Medals or Badges

21. The Association will present medals or other mementoes to the winners and runners-up in the competition each season. For the avoidance of any doubt this shall include the 16 players, Manager and Secretary of each club.

22. All questions of eligibility, qualifications, competitors and interpretation of the Rules, shall be referred to the Committee of the Association, whose decision shall be final, and the Committee shall have power to withhold the Cup.

Media and Social Media Comments

23. If a player or official makes comments in the media or social media in which they imply bias, question integrity, bring the game into disrepute or are abusive, offensive and/or insulting and are also considered to be football related, the matter will be reported under the Disciplinary Code.

Alterations to Rules

24. (a) The Committee shall have power to deal with any matter not provided for in the Rules.
(b) These rules shall not be altered, annulled, or added to, until after the Final Tie has been played.

Unforeseen circumstances

25. (a) In the event that the competition cannot be completed due to any reason which is outside the control of the Co Antrim FA, the Steel & Sons Cup Committee will retain the right to determine how the competition is concluded.

(b) All participating clubs in the competition must follow the safety requirements/protocols relating to Covid19 as laid out by the Irish FA & the Northern Ireland Executive. Any club failing to do so will be dealt with by the Committee.

**RULES OF THE
JUNIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD
COMPETITION
(Gibson & Co.)
2024/25**



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1. Name

- 1.1. This Competition shall be called the "COUNTY ANTRIM and DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION JUNIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD COMPETITION".

2. Trustees of Shield

- 2.1. The President, Vice-President and Hon. Treasurer of the Association shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Shield, in Trust for the Association.

3. Annual Competition

- 3.1. The Competition shall be annual and open to Clubs approved by the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee and affiliated to this Association.
- 3.2. Such Clubs must be in membership of leagues sanctioned by the I.F.A. Ltd., having been members of such Leagues during the previous season.
- 3.3. Only one team from each Club will be admitted to the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield.

4. Entries

- 4.1. Entries must be made on the Official Online Affiliation Form, and must be received by the Secretary of the Association not later than the 15th August of each year, and be accompanied by an entry fee of £10 per Club.
- 4.2. The following must be clearly stated on the Entry Form and recorded on The IFA Comet system's software.
 - 4.2.1. Whether ground is public or private;
 - 4.2.2. Situation of ground giving full name and address;
 - 4.2.3. Colours of Club Jersey or Shirt;
 - 4.2.4. Name and Address of Secretary;
 - 4.2.5. Contact telephone numbers
 - 4.2.6. Email address
- 4.3. In the event of a change of Secretary or any other detail initially recorded on the Official Affiliation Form or IFA Comet system's software the same must be notified immediately in writing to the Association Secretary.

5. Grounds Etc.

- 5.1. Teams entering for the Competition must register a ground on the Official Form and the registered ground of teams drawn at home will be included on the notification of the draw.
- 5.2. A private ground shall be taken to be a ground over which the Club has sole control during the match.
- 5.3. A Club may register a ground at any time during the season but must do so in writing to the Secretary of the Association previous to the drawing of the round in which it is competing. Subsequent registration will annul previous registrations, and such registration shall be submitted to the Association for approval. This information must also be updated on the IFA Comet system's software.
- 5.4. Clubs entered for the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield who have choice of grounds must have it of sufficient length and width, and marked off according to Rule 1 "Laws of the Game"; and, as far as possible, suitable provision should be made to prevent spectators encroaching on the portion of field allotted for play.
- 5.5. Suitable on-site dressing accommodation must be provided by home Club. Any club failing to conform to this rule shall be dealt with by the Junior Shield Committee who shall have power to compel the offending Club to pay such expenses or take such action as they may deem expedient.
- 5.6. Matches may be played on grass or 3rd generation (3G) artificial turf.

6. Intimidation by Spectators

- 6.1. When it can be proven that the partisans of the Club which has choice of ground, systematically interfere with the play of opposing Clubs, by using obscene or filthy language or inciting the home players to use violence to their opponents, on the application of the Club which is to play against such Club, the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have power to order the match to be played on another ground if possible.

7. Limitation of Qualifications

- 7.1. To be eligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield, players, (subject to Section 8) must be eligible to play for their Club in their respective league competitions in the current season.
- 7.2. A player's standing shall be decided by the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee.
- 7.3. Clubs must satisfy themselves as to the eligibility of their players before registration.
- 7.4. Notwithstanding anything in any Rule, if the Junior Challenge Shield Committee in the case of the Junior Challenge Shield Competition; have any doubt at any time, and whether arising out of a protest or otherwise, as to the

qualification of any player taking part in the Competition, they shall have power to call upon

such player and/or Club to which he belongs, or for which he played, to prove that he is qualified according to the Rules.

7.4.1. Failing satisfactory proof, they shall disqualify such player and shall remove the Club from the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition, and the Club may be debarred from competing for a maximum of three seasons.

7.4.2. In such circumstances the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have the power to reinstate the defeated team to the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield competition in the event that the following round has not yet taken place

7.5. A player named as substitute for a Senior or Intermediate Club and not called upon to play, shall not be considered as having played.

8. Ineligible Players

8.1. In addition to the provisions of Section 7 the following shall be ineligible for this Competition:—

- 8.1.1. A player registering, or re-registering, with his club after the 31st December in any season will not be eligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition, with the date of registration that as the date the registration is confirmed by Comet.
- 8.1.2. No player shall be eligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition for more than one Club in the same season.
- 8.1.3. A player having taken part in the Irish Cup, Senior Challenge Shield, Steel and Sons Cup or Intermediate Cup shall be ineligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield in the same season.
- 8.1.4. A player who has taken part in a Senior International contest in the current or previous 3 (three) seasons will be ineligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition.
- 8.1.5. Any player who, in the current or previous season, has played in the Final Tie of any Senior or Intermediate status competition, except a player who has played in such Final as a player of a Junior Club will be ineligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition.
- 8.1.6. Any player who has at any time taken part in more than 12 (twelve) competitive matches for Irish League Senior Clubs during the current and previous season collectively, will be ineligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition.
- 8.1.7. Any player who has taken part in more than 6 (six) competitive matches for Irish League/Premiership Senior or Intermediate Status Clubs collectively during the current season will be ineligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition.

- 8.1.8. A professional player will be ineligible to play in the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition.
- 8.2. Any Club playing an ineligible player will be removed from the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition and the Club may be debarred from competing for a maximum of three seasons.
- 8.2.1. The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have power to suspend any offending player or official, may impose a fine of £20.00 for each ineligible player played, and may withhold the Shield and Medals if they are satisfied that such Club has violated the rules during the course of the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition.
- 8.2.2. If a Club is deemed to have misled the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee in giving evidence, in such case the Club will be removed from the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Competition and the Club may be debarred from competing for a maximum of three seasons.

9. Drawing the Ties

- 9.1. The names of the Clubs approved for competition shall be placed in one lot, or lots, as the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee may determine.
- 9.2. The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee may draw subsequent round or rounds before the winners of the previous rounds have been declared and the winners according to such draw shall compete against each other as in the first round.
- 9.3. The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have power to exempt any number of Clubs from any number of rounds, and byes may be given so that four Clubs shall compete in the Semi-Finals.
- 9.4. If a Club or Clubs get a bye in any round (other than the preliminary round) it must play the next succeeding round.

10. Notification of Draw Etc.

- 10.1. Immediately after each drawing, the Secretary of the Association shall intimate to each of the Clubs drawn, the name of the Clubs and the time within which the Tie is to be played.
- 10.2. The complete draw will be sent to each Club taking part, giving particulars of colours and giving clear direction as to the full name, address and location of the ground.
- 10.3. The Teams which are in each instance first drawn in the ballot shall play on the ground registered with the Association.
- 10.3.1. If the registered ground is available, it will not be necessary for the visiting team to receive any other notification.
- 10.3.2. If the registered pitch is unplayable a Club may change to a 3G playing surface at the same venue.

10.3.3. The Secretary of the host club MUST inform the opposing team's Secretary and the Association Secretary by telephone and email immediately.

10.4. If the match is being transferred to another ground it will be the responsibility of the team drawn at home to notify both their opponents and the Secretary of the Association by telephone and email immediately, and not later than two days before kick off giving clear directions as to the full name, address and location of the ground.

10.5. In the event of a match not taking place on the date arranged owing to the ground being declared unplayable by the Referee, relevant council or groundsman where clubs have a private ground the teams shall forthwith arrange to play on the following Saturday at the same venue.

10.5.1. In the event of the match not taking place at the venue of the home team on the second Saturday, the team which was first drawn away will have choice of venue for the next two Saturdays.

10.5.2. If the match is not played at the fourth attempt due to the grounds being declared unplayable the tie will revert to the ground of the team first drawn at home and then alternately week by week to the away team's venue.

10.6. The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have the power to re-arrange any un-played fixtures at their discretion in the event of extenuating circumstances.

10.7. Any Club refusing or failing to play the Club against which it has been drawn on the date fixed by County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee and without sufficient reasons for so doing shall be adjudged to have lost the match, and shall be otherwise dealt with as the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee may determine.

10.8. Any Club intending to withdraw from the Competition must give notice in writing to the Secretary of this Association and to the Secretary of the opposing Club, such notices to be received at least four days before the date fixed for the kick-off. Any Club failing to conform to this Rule shall be dealt with by the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee, who shall have power to compel the offending Club to pay such expenses or take such action as may be deemed expedient.

10.9. In the event of a club having two or more players selected to represent their National or Regional Association representative team(s) in a competitive fixture they shall be permitted a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty.

10.10. A club whose goalkeeper is selected to represent their National or Regional Association representative team(s) shall also be permitted a postponement due to the specialist position.

11. Team Sheet

11.1. The full names of players shall be entered on the IFA Comet software no later than 15 minutes prior to the start of the game. This must be inputted within the IFA Comet software by the designated Club Line-up Manager who will be responsible for its accuracy and validity. A paper team sheet may be used should the match venue not have a data signal.

11.2. The players' shirts must be clearly numbered on the back and must correspond exactly with the instruction input into the IFA Comet system or the team sheet handed to the Match Referee should the match venue not have a data signal.

11.3. Any Club not completing the information on the IFA Comet software or Team Sheet in the prescribed manner shall be liable to a fine of £25.00. It shall be at the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee's discretion whether or not such Club should be allowed to remain in the Competition.

11.4. The Comet system will display a team sheet when both Clubs have confirmed their players or the paper Team Sheet may be inspected by the Secretary or other responsible official of either the competing teams at the conclusion of the match.

11.5. A copy of the Official Team Sheet can be viewed on the IFA Comet software or the paper team sheet may be requested from the Association Secretary by either of the competing Clubs for a fee of £25.00.

12. Substitutes

12.1. A Club may, at its discretion, use three substitute players at any time in any match except to replace a player who has been suspended from the game by the Referee.

12.2. The substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the referee has given permission.

12.3. Only three substitutions by each side will be permitted in any match and the substitute players shall be nominated prior to the commencement of the tie.

12.4. The maximum number of substitutes permitted to be nominated by each side is five.

12.5 Where extra time is played, each team has one additional substitution opportunity* (whether or not the team has used its maximum number of substitution opportunities)

13. Replacement of Players on the Team Sheet

After the team sheets have been completed and submitted to the Comet Football Management System, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following shall apply:

- a) If any of the first eleven players named on the team sheet are not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced only by any of the five (5) substitutes named on the confirmed team sheet. The substitute(s) in question can then be replaced by a player(s) not named on the initial team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three (3) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.
- b) If any of the five (5) substitutes named on the team sheet are not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced by any player not named on the confirmed team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, three (3) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.
- c) Any amendments to the team sheet in accordance with points a) and b) above must be communicated to the opposing team manager in the presence of one of the Match Officials as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the match.

14. Colours

- 14.1 The players in each competing team must wear the registered colours of the club for which they are playing, except when opposing teams have similar colours, in which case the team on whose ground the match is played shall change theirs.
- 14.2 In all other cases the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall decide which team shall change their colours.
- 14.3 The colours of the Club shall be taken to be the colours of the shirt or jersey.

15. Duration of Match

- 15.1 The duration of each match, shall be 90 minutes.
- 15.2 The match must be started at the time appointed by the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee, but no protest will be upheld for late starting, unless the Committee is satisfied that the result of the match was affected thereby.
- 15.3 The Referee shall have power to allow extra time for stoppages, their decision thereon to be final.
- 15.4 The match result must be recorded on the IFA Comet software and emailed to the Competitions Manager of the Association directly after the conclusion of the game by the winning Club but not later than 90 minutes following the conclusion of the game or a £10 fine will be issued.

16. Extra Time

- 16.1 In all rounds of the competition, including the Final, should scores be level after 90 minutes, 2 x 10 minute periods of extra time will be played.
- 16.2 If the scores are still level at the end of extra time, the tie shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International F.A. Board.

17. Protested Ties

- 17.1 In case of protested ties, or replays of same, the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall decide the dates and venues. Should either Club refuse to compete such Club shall be removed from the Competition, and otherwise dealt with as the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee may determine.

18. Abandoned Game

- 18.1 If a match has been stopped by the Match Referee before the completion of the time specified in the Rules, for any reason stated in Law 5 (Laws of the Game) or in the event of a player receiving a serious injury, the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have power, either to order the match to be replayed in full, or allow the result of the match at the time of such stoppage to stand.
- 18.2 If a match has been stopped by the Match Referee before the completion of the time specified in the Rules, and based on the evidence provided, the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee finds that a Club was responsible for the abandonment then the committee will decide the appropriate outcome of such fixture which may include exclusion from the competition for a period not exceeding 3 years.
- 18.3 A Club proven to have caused the abandonment of a match may be excluded from the competition for a period not exceeding three years.

19. Referees and Assistant Referees

- 19.1 The competing Clubs in all but the Semi-Final and Final Ties shall appoint the Assistant Referees unless otherwise arranged by the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee.
- 19.2 The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall appoint the Official Referee who shall have power to dispense with the services of the Assistant Referees in case he finds one or other giving decisions at variance with the facts.
- 19.3 In all but the Semi-Final and Final Ties, the Club on whose ground the match is played shall pay the Official Referee's fee and travel expenses.
- 19.4 The Official Referee appointed by the Association shall not be a member of either of the competing Clubs and in the Semi-Final and Final neither of the Assistant Referees shall be members of the competing Clubs.

- 19.5 No member of the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall act as a Referee in any match in Competitions of which he is a member, and shall only receive out of pocket expenses as Assistant Referees.
- 19.6 On points of fact connected with the play, over which the Assistant Referees have control, their decision shall be given by flags.
- 19.7 The Match Referee must use a whistle.
- 19.8 On any question as to the interpretation of the Rules, an appeal may be made to the Committee of the Association, but the Referee's decision must be acted on in the field although under protest.

19.9 If an Official Referee fails to arrive and both clubs can provide a Club Referee, then the clubs must either agree mutually, or toss a coin for the choice of Match Referee, and the match in such circumstances will be considered a fixture

19.10 If only one club can provide a Club Referee and both teams are in agreement, then he will be deemed the Match Referee, and the match will be considered a fixture.

19.11 In the event of the Referee sustaining an injury and is unable to carry on rules 19.9,19.10 will apply

19.12 Where an Official Referee fails to arrive for a fixture or sustains an injury and is unable to carry on and neither Club can provide a Club Referee, then the game will be played on the following Saturday.

Definitions

Official Referee – A Referee who has been appointed by The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee to take control of a game and who is entitled to a match fee.

Club Referee – A Referee who is a member of a club and has successfully completed a Referees course and who is affiliated to the Irish Football Association with access to the Comet Football Management System.

Match Referee – Either an Official Referee or Club Referee who takes charge of a game.

20. Protests

20.1 Protests and appeals must be received by the Secretary of the Association per SPECIAL DELIVERY bearing post mark within four days after the cause of protest or appeal, accompanied by a deposit of £100.00.

20.2 A copy of the protest or appeal must also be sent by SPECIAL DELIVERY to the Club protested against and the certificate of posting of such registered letter must bear date stamp within two days after the cause of the protest or appeal and shall be the sole proof of posting.

20.3 Protests and appeals are only in order if submitted by the registered Secretary or responsible Official of the Club. Protests against ineligible players must give the name of the players protested against and also the cause of the protest.

20.4 The onus of proof in any protest will lie with the Club protesting and reinstatement to the competition will only be considered on provision of such proof.

20.5 Clubs may view the Team Sheet on the IFA Comet software or the paper team sheet may be requested from the Association Secretary by either of the competing Clubs for a fee of £25.00 A separate fee will be required for each paper Team Sheet requested.

20.6 The deposit will be returned by the Association only if the protest or appeal has been upheld, or if the protest is not lodged according to Rule, or is not discussed by the Committee.

* The proof of posting of such special delivery letter shall be the postmark on the certificate of posting.

21. Division of Receipts

21.1 In the Semi-Final and Final Ties the net receipts shall be equally divided by the Association amongst the Clubs engaged therein, but in the case of all replayed ties the net receipts shall be divided as follows: – one-fourth to the Association and the remaining three-fourths to be equally divided between the competing Clubs.

21.2 The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee is at liberty to withhold monies from receipts in respect of reported damage or similar costs.

22. Medals or Mementoes

22.1 Medals or other mementoes will be presented to the winners and runners-up in the Competition each season. For the avoidance of any doubt this shall include the 16 players, Manager and Secretary of each club.

22.2 When the winning Club shall have been declared, the Secretary of the Association shall hand the Shield to its representatives on receiving a document to the following effect, and subscribed by club representatives: -

'We, A.B., President of the Y.Z. Club, and C.D., E.F. and G.H., members of and representing the said Club, which has now been declared to have won the County Antrim and District Association Junior Challenge Shield, and the said Shield having been delivered to us by J.K., Secretary of said Association, do hereby, on behalf of said Club, and individually and collectively engage to return the same to the said J.K., or Secretary of the Association for the time being one month before the final in like good order and condition. No party, other than the Secretary of the Association, is authorised to have engraving or similar works undertaken on the trophy'.

23. Alteration to Rules

23.1 The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules.

23.2 In all cases under these Rules Sunday shall not be taken into account in computing the time required in any matter arising out of these Rules.

23.3 These Rules shall not be altered, annulled, or added to, until after the Final Tie has been played.

24. COVID-19 and other pandemics

24.1. All Clubs must adhere to all guidelines and protocols issued by the Government, the Irish Football Association and County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee.

24.2 . The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee shall have the power to warn any Club not adhering to guidelines and protocols and in addition shall have the power to impose further sanctions including: • A fine • A suspension • Expulsion from a competition.

24.3. Representatives of the County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee may carry out regular COVID-19 audits on games under their remit.

24.4. The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee will have the power to decide the outcome of any scheduled games that are not played due to the effects of COVID-19

24.5. The County Antrim Junior Challenge Shield Committee will have the power to deal with all other matters that arise due to COVID-19 or others pandemics not covered above.

RULES OF THE WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP

1. Name

This competition shall be called the County Antrim & District FA Women's Challenge Cup Competition.

2. Trustees of the Cup

The President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer of the Association shall be, for all intents and purposes, the legal owners of the Cup, in Trust for the Association.

3. Annual Competition

a) The competition shall be annual and open to Clubs approved by this Committee and affiliated to this Association. Such Clubs must be in membership of leagues sanctioned by the IFA Ltd., having been members of such Leagues during the previous season. Only one team from each Club will be admitted to the Competition.

4. Entries

Entries must be made via the Comet Football Management System "Comet", not later than the last day of February of each year, and be accompanied by an entry fee of £10 per Club.

5. Substitutes

5.1 A club may at its discretion, use 5 substitute players at any time in any tie, except to replace a player who has been dismissed from the game by the Referee. The substitutions can be made in accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game. Only 5 substitutions by each side will be permitted in any tie and the maximum of 7 substitute players may be nominated prior to the commencement of the tie.

Substitutions may only be made on at most 3 occasions during the game (Excluding half time).

A sixth substitute may take part exclusively during extra time in all rounds of the competition.

5.2 Completion of team line up

A.) Each club shall complete their official team sheet by including the names of players and Team officials and their functions taking part in each match (including the name of the nominated substitutes) and confirm the lineup via Comet FMS 60 minutes prior to kick-off.

B.) Players' names must correspond with the numbers assigned on the official team sheet. The Club Comet user shall be considered to verify the accuracy of the information provided on the team sheet via Comet FMS.

C.) Any club failing to provide such documentation by the stipulated deadlines will be fined in the sum of £25 for each offence.

5.3 Replacement of Players on the Team Sheet

A.) After the team sheets have been completed and submitted to the Comet Football Management System, and if the match has not yet kicked off, the following shall apply: a) If any of the first eleven players named on the team sheet are not able to start the match due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced only by any of the seven (7) substitutes named on the confirmed team sheet. The substitute(s) in question can then be replaced by a player(s) not named on the initial team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, five (5) players can still be substituted. The replaced

player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.

B.) If any of the seven (7) substitutes named on the team sheet are not able to be fielded due to unexpected physical incapacity, they can be replaced by any player not named on the confirmed team sheet, so that the quota of substitutes is not reduced. During the match, five (5) players can still be substituted. The replaced player(s) must be removed from the team sheet and not be available for selection for this fixture.

C.) Any amendments to the team sheet in accordance with points a) and b) above must be communicated to the opposing team manager by one of the Match Officials as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the match.

6. Eligible Players

A.) The competing teams shall number eleven players each. No individual shall play for more than one Club in the Women's Challenge Cup in the same season.

B.) A player shall be construed as taking part in the game for which they were nominated only if they have actually played in such game.

C.) To be eligible to play in the Women's Challenge Cup all players must be registered by their clubs, in accordance with the IFA Professional Game Player Registration Regulations.

D.) For the avoidance of doubt to be eligible to play in this competition a player must also be eligible to participate for their club in the relevant league competition.

E.) Clubs who play in a purely amateur league competition and who are permitted to register player to participate in such purely amateur competition outside the following registration periods shall not be permitted to play any player so registered in this competition until the commencement of the subsequent registration period. The registration periods are:

FIRST REGISTRATION PERIOD

12 February – 30 April

SECOND REGISTRATION PERIOD

1 July – 31 July

F.) Any Amateur or Professional player registered by their club after 5pm on 31 July in the current season (including an 'Out of Contract Professional') will not be eligible to participate in the competition.

Any club playing an ineligible player shall be removed from the Competition and may be debarred from competing for up to a maximum of three seasons. The County Antrim FA Women's Cup Committee may also impose a fine not exceeding £25 for each ineligible player played. The Secretary or other responsible official of each competing team shall enter the full names of players on the official Team Sheet on Comet FMS and must certify the accuracy of the information supplied. An individual who is proven to have inserted a false name on the official Team Sheet may receive a suspension and/or the club may be fined. Player's names must correspond with the numbers of their shirt. Any club not completing the

official Team Sheet in the prescribed manner may be liable to a fine not exceeding £10 and it shall be at the Committee's discretion whether or not such club should be allowed to remain in the Competition.

7. Entry Levels

The CAFA Women's Challenge Cup Committee may determine the entry levels of teams to the competition at their complete discretion.

8. Draw

In the event of any match in the Competition resulting in a draw, extra time of 10 minutes each way shall be played. In the event of the score being equal at the end of this period of extra time the tie will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the conditions approved by the International FA Board.

9. Drawing of ties (up to and including the Semi-Final)

The lots shall be drawn and the competition matches played as the Committee may determine. Immediately following each draw a schedule of matches will be circulated to all participating clubs. The clubs which are in each instance first drawn in the ballot shall have choice of ground. Should 2 clubs be drawn against each other, only 1 of which has a ground available, the match shall be played on that ground. In the event of only one of the clubs drawn in any tie having floodlights, the match shall be played at that venue. In the event of a club getting a bye in any draw, the Committee at the subsequent draw shall first draw a club to play against it from the lot, the two shall again be put in the ballot box and again drawn with the first drawn club having choice of ground.

10. Playing Surfaces

Matches may be played on grass or 3rd generation (3G) artificial turf.

11. Change of Venue

In the event of a match being transferred to an alternative ground it shall be the responsibility of the team drawn at home to notify in writing, by email to both their opponents and the Competitions Manager of the County Antrim & District Football Association not later than 7 days previous to the date of the match giving clear directions to the location of the ground. Failure to notify the County Antrim & District Football Association and opponents may result in the team being dismissed from the Competition. If necessary the Committee will permit the playing of the match at either clubs registered or alternative ground if agreed in writing and confirmed to the Competitions Manager by both clubs not later than 5pm on the Friday previous to the date of the match.

12. Clubs Failing to Play

Any club refusing or failing to play against the club against which it has been drawn on the date fixed by the Committee, and without sufficient reasons for so-doing, shall be adjudged to have forfeited the match and will be otherwise dealt with as the Committee may determine. Also, any club leaving the ground before the expiration of the game must be adjudged to have forfeited the match and shall be liable to be dealt with by the Committee.

13. International Duty

- a) In normal circumstances International Duty applies only to Full International and Under 19 International call up.

- b) A club whose goalkeeper is selected for International Under 17 duty and has made first team debut for their Club may also be considered.

- c) In the event of a club having two (2) or more players selected and/or on standby to represent their National Association representative team(s), they shall be permitted to request a postponement of their scheduled fixture during the period of release in respect of such International Duty. Furthermore, a club whose goalkeeper is selected for such International Duty shall also be permitted to request a postponement due to the specialist position.
- d) The County Antrim FA Women's Cup Committee shall consider all such requests and determine whether or not such requests are approved or rejected.

14. Pitch Inspections

- a) In case of unfavourable weather conditions or concerns regarding the playing surface the Home Club must request the Co Antrim FA for an early inspection not later than five hours before kick-off. The Match Referee or an alternative Referee appointed by the Co Antrim FA must inspect the ground at least three hours or more previous to the advertised time of kick-off and shall decide as to the fitness of the ground not later than three hours prior to the pre-arranged time of kick-off, their decision being final after consultation with the Club Secretary and the Co Antrim FA.
- b) No game shall be postponed without an inspection by a referee appointed by the Co Antrim FA, who shall take due cognizance of local advice and the travelling supporters.
- c) Notwithstanding the above, in the event of extreme weather conditions and forecasts the Co Antrim FA Competition Manager, in consultation with the Co Antrim FA Women's Committee Chair, may declare any match or matches postponed without a formal pitch inspection.
- d) Where possible the officially appointed match referee should carry out the pitch inspection but if he/she should not be available for an inspection then the Co Antrim FA will appoint an alternative official from a panel approved by the committee, who will decide on the state of the pitch. If obviously 'playable' they will then declare their decision.
- e) It is agreed that in addition to the £5 fee an allowance of £5 per hour be paid up until 6:45pm when the referee would be due to arrive at the ground in normal circumstances. This will only apply when the match referee has had to travel 30 miles or more (single journey/one way). Any distances shorter than this would result in the match referee returning home following the inspection and travel back to the ground at the normal time and he would of course be entitled to add this extra travel and £5 inspection fee onto his expenses for the game.
- f) The Referee, Assistant Referees and 4th Official shall be paid half match fee and expenses for a postponed match which they have arrived at and inspected.

15. Postponed or Abandoned Matches

- a) In the case of matches where it is found necessary to stop play owing to weather conditions the referee must wait for a period of 15 minutes before deciding upon abandonment.
- b) If through any cause a match has been abandoned before the completion of the full playing time, the Co Antrim FA Women's Cup Committee shall have power at its discretion to award a win according to the goals scored at the time of such abandonment, or order the unfinished time to be played, or to order the match to be re-played in its entirety, on a subsequent date to be fixed by the Co Antrim FA Women's Cup Committee under such terms and conditions as it may impose.
- c) Postponed or abandoned matches shall be played on a date to be determined by the Co Antrim FA Women's Cup Committee.

16. Protests

Protests must be received by the Secretary of the Association by Special Delivery post, bearing post mark within 4 days after the cause of the protest, accompanied by a deposit of £20 which shall be forfeited in all cases where the protest has not been sustained. A copy of the protest must also be sent by Special Delivery post, bearing post mark within 4 days after the cause of the protest, to the club protested against.

17. Appeals against Decisions of the Women's Cup Committee

All appeals against a decision of the Women's Cup Committee must be made to the IFA in accordance with the relevant IFA Articles of the Association.

18. Committee's doubts as to qualifications of players

If the Committee has any doubt as to the qualification of any player competing in the Competition it shall have the power to call upon such player, and/or the club to which she belongs or for which she played, to prove to the satisfaction of the Committee that she is properly qualified according to the Rules. Failing satisfactory proof the Committee shall have the power to disqualify such player, remove such club from the Competition and impose such other penalty as they may think fit. In such circumstances the Committee shall have the power to reinstate the defeated team to the competition in the event that the following round has not yet taken place.

19. Clubs to appoint Assistant Referees

The competing clubs shall appoint the Assistant Referees to matches unless otherwise directed by the Women's Cup Committee.

20. Appointment of Referees

In all matches the Association shall appoint the Referee, who shall have the power to dispense with the services of the Assistant Referees of the clubs in the event that he/she finds one or other giving decisions at variance with the facts. The Association shall also appoint Assistant Referees and 4th Officials to the Semi-Final and Final ties.

21. Referees Fees & Expenses

Where there is no appointed referee or where the appointed referee does not appear, the game may be refereed by a club referee (that is a qualified referee who is a member of a club) who is registered and who has paid their subscription to the Association. In the event that both teams have a qualified club referee, there shall be a coin toss and the winner shall referee the game. The qualified club referee shall be responsible for completing the match report on the Association's Comet Football Management System. Should there be no Association appointed Referee or qualified club referee available, the fixture will be recorded as postponed. Prior to the Semi-Finals, the club on whose ground a match is played shall pay the referees' fees and expenses. In the Semi Final and Final ties the Association shall pay the Referees' fees and expenses.

22. Players must wear registered colours

a.) The players in each competing team must wear the registered club colours except when opposing teams have similar colours, in which case the team on whose ground the match is being played shall change. Failure to comply will result in offending clubs being fined £50. In all other cases the Committee shall decide which team shall change their colours.

b.) In a Semi-Final or Final tie, or any other tie played on neutral ground, where opposing teams have similar colours both teams shall change unless it is mutually agreed that only one team need to do so.

c.) The colours of the club shall be taken as the colour of the shirt, shorts and socks. A goalkeeper must wear a shirt of different colour and said shirt must be of a colour distinctive from that of her opponents.

d.) Referees shall have power to instruct a Club to change any part of their playing kit if they consider the colour not quite distinctive from that of their opponents, and the Referee shall have power to deal with any club or player refusing to comply with this instruction.

23. Notice of scratching

Any club intending to withdraw (scratch) from the Competition must give notice to the Association and to the Secretary of the opposing club. Such notice must be received at least 4 days before the date of the match. Any club failing to conform to this rule shall be dealt with by the Committee who may compel the offending club to pay the expenses incurred and to take any other action they consider appropriate.

24. Venue for Final

The venue for the Final tie shall be decided by the Committee and shall be neutral. In exceptional circumstances the Committee may permit a match to be played on the ground of either club concerned if both clubs are in agreement.

25. Agreement for Cup

When the winning Club shall have been declared, the Secretary of the Association shall hand the Cup to its representatives on receiving a document to the following effect, and subscribed by club representatives: -

We, A.B., President of the Y.Z. Club, and C.D., E.F. and G.H., members of and representing the said Club, which has now been declared to have won the County Antrim and District Football Association Women's Challenge Cup, and the said Cup having been delivered to us by J.K., Secretary of said Association, do hereby, on behalf of said Club, and individually and collectively engage to return the same to the said J.K., or Secretary of the Association for the time being one month before the final in like good order and condition. No party, other than the Secretary of the Association, is authorised to have engraving or similar works undertaken on the trophy.

26. Medals / Mementoes

In addition to the Cup, the Committee shall present suitable mementoes to the winners and runners up. Each club will receive 18 Player medals, 1 Manager medal and 1 Secretary medal.

27. Division of Receipts

In all Competition Matches, with the exception of the Semi-Final and Final ties, the club on whose ground the match is played shall take the receipts and pay all expenses.

Semi Final:

In the Semi Final ties, net receipts shall be divided equally amongst the two Clubs. (The home club shall ensure that copies of the receipts for such costs are furnished to the away team upon request). Payment shall be made to the away team within 7 days following the date on which the match was played.

Final:

In the Final tie, the net receipts shall be equally divided amongst the two Clubs.

28. Committee Powers

The Committee shall have the power to deal with offending club/s, player/s, official/s, as they consider appropriate and to deal with any matter not otherwise provided for in these rules. In all cases under these Rules Sunday shall not be taken into account in computing the time required in any matter arising out of these Rules. These Rules shall not be altered, annulled, or added to, until after the Final Tie has been played.

SCALES OF CHARGES FOR REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES

SENIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD MATCHES

Referee £240.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred. Assistant Referees £130.00 and travelling expenses incurred.

SEMI-FINALS: Referee £240.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred. Assistant Referees and Fourth Official £130.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred.

FINAL: Medals for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Official plus travelling expenses actually incurred.

STEEL AND SONS CUP MATCHES

Referee £75.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred.

Semi-Final Referee £75.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred. Assistant Referees £50.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred.

Final: Medals for Referees, Assistant Referees & Fourth Official plus travelling expenses actually incurred.

JUNIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD & WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP MATCHES

Referee: £50.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred.

Semi-Finals Referees £50.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred. Assistant referees £50.00 and travelling expenses actually incurred.

Final: Medals for Referees, Assistant Referees & Fourth Official (if applicable) plus travelling expenses actually incurred.

When a tie is postponed and no gate taken, the Referee and assistant referees shall be paid half fee and travelling expenses.

NOTE: Officials can claim 35p per mile as a football mileage allowance if they use their own car for a match day journey. For officials claiming mileage, the football mileage allowance is calculated by multiplying the miles travelled by the specific rate per mile. There will be no maximum cap applied to the allowable mileage claim.

** Above scale of charges for referees and assistant referees is based on Irish FA rates and applicable when printing this rule book. Any subsequent changes will be advised to all leagues.*

REFEREES' COMMITTEE RULES

1 The referees in the North-East Divisions shall be under the control of and in connection with the North-East Football Association.

2 The entire management of the Referees' Committee shall be vested in the Referees' Committee appointed by the Council.

3 (a) Referees shall pay such annual fee as may be fixed by the Irish Football Association Ltd., such fee to cover registration with the Irish Football Association Ltd., Referee members of the Council shall be exempt from payment of fee, but shall not receive remuneration for services.

(b) In addition to such annual fee to the Irish Football Association Ltd., each Referee shall pay each year to the North-East Ulster Referees' Association, such fees as may be fixed, from time to time, by that Association.

4 The Referees' Committee shall consist of the Hon. Officials and two members from each of the Committees to be elected annually by the Council.

5 All applications for Registration must be made to the Secretary of the North-East Ulster Referees' Association who will forward details of registered referees to the Secretary of the County Antrim & District FA. Applications must be accompanied by registration fee, such fee to be returned if application is refused or candidate not passed for registration

6 All applications for registration should be made not later than 31st May in each season.

7 No Referee shall be appointed in any recognised competitive match who is not on the official register of this Association.

8 Complaints concerning the application of the Laws of the Game, whether arising from clubs, leagues or this Association, must be submitted to the IFA Referees' Committee in accordance with IFA Rules Suspensions of Referees shall debar them from acting until such suspension has expired, and Referees suspended and appealing cannot act until such appeal has been decided.

9 Semi-Finals and Final Ties of I.F.A. Ltd., and Semi-Finals and Finals of their Association shall, in all cases, have first claim on Referees.

10 Players ordered off the field must be reported to the Association by the Referee, and all reports by Referees arising out of matches in which they are officiating must be sent by post bearing postmark, or by email in the approved format, within two days of the date of the match. NOTE – A report shall not be rendered void by the non-observance of this rule. Referees failing to observe this Rule shall be dealt with in accordance with rule 8.

11 The Referees' Committee is expected to attend such matches as they think desirable for the purposes of observing the capabilities of the various Referees.

SENIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD FINALS

1888-89 Distillery	8	Y.M.C.A.	4
1889-90 SHIELD WITHHELD			
1890-91 Blackwatch	4	Oldpark	2
1891-92 Cliftonville	2	Lancashire	1
1892-93 Distillery	2	Celtic	1
1893-94 Cliftonville	2	Celtic	1
1894-95 Celtic	3	Distillery	1
1895-96 Distillery	5	Linfield	0
1896-97 Distillery	3	Linfield	1
After Drawn Game			
1897-98 Cliftonville	2	Linfield	0
1898-99 Linfield	4	Linfield Swifts	0
After Drawn Game			
1899-00 Distillery	2	Linfield	0
After Drawn Game			
1900-01 Glentoran	2	Cliftonville	1
1901-02 Glentoran	2	Distillery	1
1902-03 Distillery	4	Linfield	1
1903-04 Linfield	4	Celtic	1
1904-05 Distillery	2	Linfield	0
1905-06 Linfield	2	Distillery	0
After Drawn Game			
1906-07 Linfield	2	Glentoran	0
1907-08 Linfield	3	Distillery	0
1908-09 Glentoran 2 nd	3	Cliftonville	0
1909-10 Belfast Celtic	3	Glentoran	1
1910-11 Glentoran	2	Cliftonville	0
1911-12 NOT PLAYED			
1912-13 Linfield	1	Cliftonville	0
After Drawn Game			
1913-14 Linfield	3	Glentoran	2
1914-15 Distillery	1	Glentoran	0
1915-16 Glentoran	1	Distillery	0
1916-17 Linfield	3	Glentoran	0
1917-18 Glentoran	2	Linfield	0
1918-19 Distillery	1	Belfast Celtic	0
After Drawn Game			
1919-20 Distillery	2	Belfast Celtic	0
After Drawn Game			
1920-21 Glentoran.	1	Distillery	0
After Drawn Game			
1921-22 Linfield	4	Distillery	1
After Drawn Game			
1922-23 Linfield	4	Glentoran	1
1923-24 Queens Island	3	Distillery	0
1924-25 Glentoran	2	Belfast Celtic	1
1925-26 Cliftonville	5	Glentoran	1
1926-27 Belfast Celtic	3	Dunmurry	2
1927-28 Linfield	4	Ards	2
After Drawn Game			
1928-29 Linfield	2	Broadway United	1
1929-30 Linfield	3	Glentoran	1
1930-31 Glentoran	2	Cliftonville	1
1931-32 Linfield	5	Belfast Celtic	1
1932-33 Linfield	3	Belfast Celtic	1

After 2 Drawn Games			
1933-34 Linfield	7	Ards	1
1934-35 Linfield	4	Belfast Celtic 2nds	2
1935-36 Belfast Celtic	1	Belfast Celtic 2nds	0
1936-37 Belfast Celtic	1	Glentoran	0
1937-38 Linfield	3	Ballymena United	2
1938-39 Belfast Celtic	2	Glentoran	1
1939-40 Glentoran	4	Linfield	0
1940-41 Glentoran	1	Distillery	0
1941-42 Linfield	2	Larne	0
1942-43 Belfast Celtic	2	Linfield	1
After Drawn Game			
1943-44 Glentoran	3	Belfast Celtic	0
1944-45 Belfast Celtic	1	Linfield	0
1945-46 Distillery	3	Bangor Reserves	0
After Drawn Game			
1946-47 NOT PLAYED			
1947-48 Ballymena United	2	Linfield	1
1948-49 Linfield Swifts	4	Bangor	1
After Two Drawn Games			
1949-50 Glentoran	2	Linfield	0
1950-51 Ballymena United	3	Cliftonville	0
1951-52 Glentoran	3	Brantwood	0
1952-53 Linfield	2	Distillery	1
After Two Drawn Games			
1953-54 Distillery	1	Ballymena United	0
1954-55 Linfield	3	Crusaders	0
1955-56 Ards	4	Linfield	1
1956-57 Glentoran	4	Distillery	0
After Drawn Game			
1957-58 Linfield	3	Distillery	1
1958-59 Linfield	3	Bangor	1
1959-60 Crusaders	2	Linfield	0
After Drawn Game			
1960-61 Linfield	2	Glentoran	1
1961-62 Linfield	5	Glentoran	0
1962-63 Linfield	4	Bangor	0
1963-64 Distillery	2	Glentoran	1
1964-65 Crusaders	6	Larne	0
1965-66 Linfield	4	Ballymena United	0
1966-67 Linfield	5	Crusaders	3
1967-68 Glentoran	3	Linfield	0
1968-69 Crusaders	2	Linfield	1
1969-70 Bangor	3	Ards	2
After Three Drawn Games			
1970-71 Glentoran	2	Crusaders	1
1971-72 Final over Two Matches – Ards defeated Crusaders 5-4 on penalty kicks after an aggregate draw of 3-3			
1972-73 Linfield	9	Bangor	1
After Two Matches			
1973-74 Crusaders	2	Larne	1
1974-75 Bangor	2	Glentoran	1
1975-76 Ballymena United	4	Distillery	0
1976-77 Linfield	3	Glentoran	1
1977-78 Glentoran	1	Crusaders	0
1978-79 Cliftonville	3	Crusaders	0
On Penalties after a Scoreless Draw			
1979-80 Ballymena United	3	Crusaders	1
On Penalties after a Scoreless Draw			

1980-81 Linfield	4	Glentoran	1
1981-82 Linfield	1	Distillery	0
1982-83 Linfield	4	Glentoran	1
1983-84 Linfield	3	Crusaders	1
1984-85 Glentoran	2	Crusaders	1
1985-86 Distillery	3	Ballymena United	1
1986-87 Glentoran	3	Glenavon	0
1987-88 Newry Town	2	Ballymena United	1
1988-89 Bangor	2	Glentoran	1
After Extra Time			
1989-90 Glentoran	6	Linfield	5
On Penalties after a Scoreless Draw			
1990-91 Glenavon	4	Newry Town	3
1991-92 Crusaders	2	Glenavon	1
1992-93 Carrick Rangers	2	Glentoran	1
After Drawn Game			
1993-94 Ards	4	Crusaders	2
1994-95 Linfield	4	Glenavon	0
1995-96 Glenavon	3	Crusaders	0
1996-97 Cliftonville	5	Ballymena United	4
After Extra Time and Penalties			
1997-98 Linfield	1	Crusaders	0
Golden Goal in Extra-time			
1998-99 Glentoran	2	Cliftonville	0
*NOTE from 1986 until 1998 senior clubs from all Divisional Associations were invited to compete.			
1999-00 Glentoran	2	Bangor	1
2000-01 Linfield	2	Glentoran	1
2001-02 Glentoran	2	Linfield	0
2002-03 Glentoran	3	Ballymena United	0
2003-04 Linfield	2	Ards	0
2004-05 Linfield	2	Crusaders	1
2005-06 Linfield	2	Ballymena United	1
2006-07 Cliftonville	2	Lisburn Distillery	1
2007-08 Glentoran	2	Crusaders	1
2008-09 Cliftonville	2	Linfield	1
2009-10 Crusaders	3	Linfield	2
After Extra Time			
2010-11 Glentoran	3	Linfield	1
55			
2011-12 Cliftonville	2	Glentoran	1
2012-13 Ballymena United	5	Linfield	4
After Extra Time and Penalties			
2013-14 Linfield	4	Crusaders	1
After Extra Time and Penalties			
2014-15 Cliftonville	1	Bangor	0
2015-16 Ballymena Utd	3	Linfield FC	2
2016-17 Linfield FC	3	Crusaders FC	1
2017-18 Crusaders FC	4	Ballymena Utd	2
2018-19 Crusaders FC	4	Linfield FC	3
2019-20 Cliftonville FC	2	Ballymena United	1
2020-21 Larne FC	4	Glentoran FC	3
After Penalties			
2021-22 Larne FC	1	Linfield FC	0
2022-23 Larne FC	4	Linfield FC	2
After Penalties			
2023-24 Larne FC	2	Glentoran FC	1

STEEL AND SONS CUP FINALS

1895-96 Linfield Swifts	4	Cliftonville Olympic	2
1896-97 Wesley	2	Glentoran 2 nd	1
1897-98 Dunmurry	2	Ligoniel	0
1898-99 Linfield Swifts	1	Celtic 2 nd	0
1899-00 Cliftonville Olympic	3	Celtic 2 nd	0
1900-01 Distillery West End	5	Larne	0
1901-02 Cliftonville Olympic	5	Distillery 2 nd	3
1902-03 Highfield	2	Mountpottinger Y.M.C.A	1
1903-04 Mountpottinger Y.M.C.A	4	Linfield Swifts	2
1904-05 Glentoran 2 nd	1	Woodvale	0
After 5 matches			
1905-06 Mountpottinger Y.M.C.A	6	Parkside Rovers	0
1906-07 Cliftonville Olympic	4	Parkside Rovers	0
1907-08 Cliftonville Olympic	3	Barn	0
Protested Tie			
1908-09 Glentoran 2 nd	3	Larne	2
1909-10 Larne	2	Oldpark Corinthians	0
1910-11 Glentoran 2 nd	2	K.O.S.B.	1
After Drawn Game			
1911-12 Black Diamond	3	Ollardale	1
1912-13 Belfast Celtic 2 nd	3	Glentoran 2 nd	1
1913-14 Cliftonville Olympic	4	Barn	1
1914-15 Glentoran 2 nd	1	Belfast Celtic 2 nd	0
After Drawn Game			
1915-16 Linfield Swifts	2	Glentoran 2 nd	0
After Two Drawn Games			
1916-17 Belfast Celtic 2 nd	2	Distillery 2 nd	0
1917-18 Belfast Celtic 2 nd	1	Glentoran 2 nd	0
1918-19 Glentoran 2 nd	2	Distillery 2 nd	1
After a Drawn Game			
1919-20 Dunmurry	1	Brantwood	0
After a Drawn Game			
1920-21 Brantwood	3	Bangor	0
1921-22 Cliftonville Olympic	2	Dundela	1
After Two Drawn Games			
1922-23 Crusaders	3	Bangor	1
After Two Drawn Games			
1923-24 Bangor	2	Woodburn	0
After a Drawn Game			
1924-25 Ormiston	1	Ballyclare Comrades	0
After Two Drawn Games			
1925-26 St Mary's	4	Summerfield	0
1926-27 Crusaders	5	Dunmurry	3
1927-28 Willowfield	2	Ormiston	1
After a Drawn Game			
1928-29 Crusaders	4	Broadway United	0
1929-30 Broadway United	5	Linfield Swifts	0
After a Drawn Game			
1930-31 Crusaders	3	Charleville	1
After a Drawn Game			
1931-32 Brantwood	3	Dunmurry	0
1932-33 Glentoran 2 nd	3	Belfast Celtic 2 nd	1
After a Drawn Game			
1933-34 Crusaders	3	Belfast Celtic 2 nd	1
1934-35 Belfast Celtic 2 nd	3	Crusaders	2
1935-36 Belfast Celtic 2 nd	2	Glentoran 2 nd	1
After a Drawn Game			

1936-37 Crusaders	3	Glentoran 2 nd	0
1937-38 Glentoran 2 nd	2	Summerfield	1
1938-39 Sirocco Works	2	Crusaders	1
1939-40 Linfield Swifts	2	Crusaders	0
1940-41 Bangor Reserves	2	Distillery 2 nd	1
1941-42 Larne Olympic	3	Belfast Celtic 2nd	1
1942-43 Larne Olympic	4	Victoria Works United	1
1943-44 Ballyclare Comrades	4	Glentoran 2 nd	2
1944-45 Bangor Reserves	3	Larne	0
1945-46 Dundela	3	Bangor Reserves	1
After Two Drawn Games			
1946-47 Linfield Swifts	4	Crusaders	1
1947-48 Crusaders	3	Larne	2
After a Drawn Game			
1948-49 Linfield Swifts	6	Brantwood	2
1949-50 Albert Foundry	3	Crusaders Reserves	2
1950-51 Brantwood	2	Ballymoney United	1
1951-52 Brantwood	2	Feltville	0
1952-53 Brantwood	2	Larne	1
1953-54 Crusaders Reserves	4	Linfield Swifts	2
1954-55 East Belfast	5	Dundela	0
1955-56 Brantwood	2	Carrick Rangers	0
1956-57 Larne	3	Linfield Swifts	1
After a Drawn Game			
1957-58 Glentoran 2 nd	3	Larne	0
1958-59 Larne	2	Crusaders Reserves	1
1959-60 Larne	1	Ards 2 nd	0
1960-61 Ballyclare Comrades	4	Dundela	3
1961-62 Carrick Rangers	1	Ballymena United Reserves	0
After a Drawn Game			
1962-63 Chimney Corner	2	Dundela	1
1963-64 Dundela	4	Larne	1
After a Drawn Game			
1964-65 Larne	2	Brantwood	0
1965-66 Glentoran 2 nd	1	Larne	0
1966-67 Glentoran 2 nd	4	Ards 2 nd	0
1967-68 Carrick Rangers	3	Dundela	1
1968-69 Larne	3	Glentoran 2 nd	1
1969-70 Larne	3	Ballyclare Comrades	1
1970-71 Larne	4	Dundonald	1
After a Drawn Game			
1971-72 Larne	1	Dundela	0
1972-73 Linfield Swifts	2	Dundela	1
1973-74 Chimney Corner	2	Glentoran 2 nd	0
1974-75 Ballyclare Comrades	1	Glentoran 2 nd	0
1975-76 Chimney Corner	5	Ballyclare Comrades	2
After a Drawn Game			
1976-77 Brantwood	2	Ards 2 nd	0
1977-78 Downpatrick Rec	3	Ballyclare Comrades	1
After a Drawn Game			
1978-79 Cromac Albion	4	Ballyclare Comrades	1
After a Drawn Game			
1979-80 Short & Harland's	2	Barn United	0
1980-81 Dundela	3	Killyleagh Y.C.	1
1981-82 Ballyclare Comrades	3	Killyleagh Y.C.	2
After a Drawn Game			
1982-83 Dundela	2	R.U.C.	0
1983-84 Linfield Swifts	2	Ballymena United Res	1
1984-85 Ballyclare Comrades	1	Distillery 2 nd	0

After a Drawn Game			
1985-86 Brantwood	5	Ballymoney United	2
After a Drawn Game			
1986-87 Ballyclare Comrades	3	Killyleagh Y.C.	0
1987-88 Dundela	1	Linfield Swifts	0
After a Drawn Game			
1988-89 Dundela	2	Glentoran II	1
1989-90 Glentoran II	4	East Belfast	1
1990-91 Dundela	2	R.U.C.	0
1991-92 Comber Rec	4	Brantwood	1
1992-93 East Belfast	1	Linfield Swifts	0
1993-94 R.U.C.	5	Dundela	1
1994-95 Bangor Reserves	1	Linfield Swifts	0
1995-96 Ballymena Utd Reserves	2	Dromara Village	1
After a Drawn Game			
1996-97 Chimney Corner	2	Comber Rec	1
1997-98 Linfield Swifts	1	Dundela	0
Golden Goal in Extra-time			
1998-99 Dunmurry Recreation	2	R.U.C.	0
1999-00 Dundela	3	Comber Recreation	2
2000-01 Glentoran II	2	Cliftonville Olympic	1
Golden Goal in Extra-time			
2001-02 Glentoran II	1	Dundela	0
2002-03 Killyleagh Y.C.	1	Chimney Corner	0
2003-04 Donegal Celtic	3	Killyleagh Y.C.	0
2004-05 Bangor	2	Glentoran II	0
2005-06 Crusaders	4	Dundela	1
2006-07 Brantwood	4	H&W Welders	3
2007-08 Dundela	2	Ballyclare Comrades	0
2008-09 Ards	2	Carrick Rangers	1
2009-10 Kilmore Rec	2	Downpatrick FC	0
2010-11 H&W Welders	3	Knockbreda	1
2011-12 Bangor	2	Larne	1
2012-13 TROPHY WITHHELD			
2013-14 Dundela	4	Immaculata	1
2014-15 Carrick Rangers	4	H&W Welders	1
2015-16 H&W Welders	1	Albert Foundry	1
H&W Welders won 4-1 on pens (1-1 AET)			
2016-17 Linfield Swifts	3	Dundela	1
2017-18 Newington FC	1	Linfield Swifts	0
2018-19 East Belfast FC	3	Sirocco Works FC	0
2019-20 Linfield Swifts	3	Newington FC	1
2020-21 TROPHY WITHHELD DUE TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC			
2021-22 Newington FC	1	Linfield Swifts	0
2022-23 Bangor FC	2	Dunmurry Rec	1
2023-24 Comber Rec	3	Crumlin Star	2

JUNIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD FINALS

1900-01 Oldpark	3	Sandsvale Swifts	0
After a Drawn Game			
1901-02 Springfield Swifts	1	Highfield	0
1902-03 Summerfield Swifts	3	Crusaders	2
1903-04 Westbourne	2	St. Helen's	0
After a Drawn Game			
1904-05 Linfield Pirates	1	St Mary's Star	0
1905-06 Old Park Corinthians	5	North Belfast	0
1906-07 Celtic Strollers	2	Westbourne	1
After Two Drawn Games			
1907-08 University	3	Clifton Park Zebras	0
After a Drawn Game			
1908-09 National Telephone	1	Milltown	0
1909-10 Bangor Rangers	1	Millview	0
1910-11 St. Thomas'	3	Model Juniors	1
1911-12 Ormiston	4	Ashmount	1
1912-13 Ormiston	3	Ashmount	0
1913-14 Annsboro	1	Linfield Rangers	0
1914-15 Linfield Rangers	1	Galgorm	0
1915-16 Dunmurry Rangers	2	St Peter's Swifts	0
After a Drawn Game			
1916-17 Willowfield II	3	Oldpark Swifts	2
1917-18 Mount Cuba	1	Belfast Newsboys	0
After Two Drawn Games			
1918-19 Final Not Played Shield Awarded to Holywood			
1919-20 Victoria Amateurs	3	Wolfhill Amateurs	2
After a Drawn Game			
1920-21 Brookfield Strollers	6	Cogry Mills	1
1921-22 Crownville	2	Victoria Rangers	1
1922-23 Victoria Rangers	4	Old Lodge	2
1923-24 Earlville	2	Adelaide	0
1924-25 York Rangers	2	Adelaide	1
1925-26 Millwall Athletic	3	Loopvale	2
1926-27 Georgeville	2	The Star	1
1927-28 Grovebank	2	Charleville	1
1928-29 Grovebank	3	Mansfield	2
1929-30 Grovebank	3	Byron	0
1930-31 SHIELD WITHHELD			
1931-32 Byron	1	Dunmurry Amateurs	0
1932-33 Townsend Olympic	3	Gems	2
1933-34 Ewarts Recreation	3	Balmoral	1
1934-35 Hazelfield	2	Bellevue	1
1935-36 Dervock	2	Whitehouse R.C	1
1936-37 Donegall Road Methodist	3	35th Old Boys	2
1937-38 Blades	3	17th Old Boys	2
1938-39 Loopbridge	4	Barbour's United	2
1939-40 SHIELD WITHHELD			
1940-41 Jennymount Methodist	3	Comber Olympic	1
After a Drawn Game			
1941-42 Carrick Rangers	4	Comber Star	0
1942-43 SHIELD WITHHELD			
1943-44 Semi-Finals and Final Not Played			
Shield Awarded to East Belfast			
1944-45 Bentinck	4	Woodvale Y.M.	1

1945-46 Glengormley Y.M.	2	Albert St. Presbyterian	0
1946-47 Jennymount Rec.	5	Belfast Silk & Rayon	2
1947-48 Shield Awarded to McCue Dicks			
1948-49 Muckamore Presbyterian	3	Newcastle	1
1949-50 Muckamore Presbyterian	1	Co-Op Recreation	0
1950-51 Whiteabbey Recreation	2	33rd Old Boys	0
1951-52 Grosvenor Recreation	5	Lodgeville	1
1952-53 Blythe Street O.B.	1	Whiteabbey	0
1953-54 Shelbourne	1	Mountpottinger Y.M.C.A.	0
1954-55 Belfast Silk & Rayon	3	Murray's Recreation	1
1955-56 Cloughfern Parish.	2	Rockville	1
1956-57 Whiterock United	3	St. John's Whitehouse	1
1957-58 Colin United	3	Conlon Street Mission	2
1958-59 Stranmillis T.C.	1	Broadway (Ballymena)	0
1959-60 McQuiston Recreation	3	Whiteabbey Presbyterian	2
1960-61 Lower Shankill O.B.	5	Hibernians	1
1961-62 Harryville Amateurs	2	Lower Shankill O.B.	1
1962-63 Belfast Newsboys	2	Shelbourne	1
1963-64 21st B.B. Old Boys	2	2nd Ballyeaston Pres. Y.M.	1
1964-65 Lower Shankill O.B.	5	Annalong Rangers	0
1965-66 R.U.C. 2 nd	2	Nelson's	1
1966-67 Mossley Y.M.	2	H. & W. Welders	0
1967-68 Hibernians	3	Dunmurry Y.M.	0
1968-69 Lower Shankill O.B.	3	Harryville Amateurs	1
1969-70 Lower Shankill O.B.	2	St. Donard's	0
After Two Drawn Games			
1970-71 Cromac Albion	1	H. & W. Welders	0
1971-72 Cromac Albion	2	Wakehurst	0
1972-73 Bangor Y.M.	3	Dunmurry Y.M.	2
1973-74 Shankill Y.M.C.A.	2	Wakehurst	0
1974-75 Cullybackey	3	Glebe Swifts	1
1975-76 40th Old Boys	1	Bangor Y.M.	0
After a Drawn Game			
1976-77 40th Old Boys	2	Malachians	0
1977-78 Ballynafeigh Methodist	2	Ballynahinch Rec.	0
1978-79 Kilmore Rec	2	40th Old Boys	1
1979-80 Kircubbin Athletic	1	Orangefield O.B.	0
1980-81 1st Bangor Old Boys	2	Cullybackey	0
1981-82 Wakehurst	1	1st Bangor Old Boys	0
1982-83 1st Bangor Old Boys	1	Ballynafeigh Y.M.	0
1983-84 40th Old Boys	5	S.T.C. 2nd	1
1984-85 40th Old Boys	3	Kyle Rangers	1
1985-86 Crumlin United	1	Wakehurst	0
1986-87 Maghera	2	Rathenraw	1
1987-88 Lisburn Rangers	1	St. Donard's	0
1988-89 Maghera	3	Ford	1
1989-90 Wakehurst	4	West Belfast Rangers	1
1990-91 Newington Y.C.	2	Lisburn Rangers	0
1991-92 Kelvin O.B.	2	Ballynahinch Olympic	1
1992-93 Castletown United	3	St. Lukes	2
1993-94 Temple Rangers	1	Lisburn Rangers	0
1994-95 Immaculata	2	Temple Rangers	0
1995-96 Grove United	2	Knockbreda Parish YM	1
1996-97 Grove United	2	Immaculata	1
1997-98 Grange Rangers	1	Tollymore United	0
Golden Goal in Extra-time			
1998-99 Lisburn Rangers	1	Rathfern Rangers	0
1999-00 Portaferry Rovers	1	F.C. Penarol	0
2000-01 Ballywalter Rec	2	Hollywood Recreation	0

2001-02 Raceview Rangers	2	Downpatrick Hospitals	0
2002-03 St. Oliver Plunkett	3	Ardoyne WMC	2
2003-04 Ardoyne WMC	3	Crumlin United II	0
2004-05 H&W Sports	2	Malachians II	1
2005-06 Ardoyne WMC	3	Temple Rangers	1
2006-07 Rathfern Rangers	3	Ardoyne WMC	2
2007-08 Ballywalter Recreation	2	Malachians II	0
2008-09 Immaculata	2	Ballyvea YM	1
2009-10 Crumlin Star	1	Ardoyne WMC	0
2010-11 Kelvin OB	2	St Patrick's YM	1
2011-12 Basement YM	2	Valley Rangers	0
2012-13 Portaferry Rovers	4	Woodvale	2
2013-14 St Paul's FC	2	St Luke's	1
2014-15 Tullycarnet	4	Kelvin OB	0
2015-16 Harryville Homers	2	Ballyvea	0
2016-17 Suffolk FC	3	Woodvale FC	1
2017-18 Willowbank FC	3	Harryville Homers	0
2018-19 Willowbank FC	4	Ballycastle United	1
2019-20 Ahoghill Thistle	2	Harryville Homers	1
2020-21 TROPHY WITHELD DUE TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC			
2021-22 Willowbank FC	1	Harryville Homers	0
2022-23 Greencastle Rovers	3	Beaan Mhadaghain	0
2023-24 St Mary's FC	3	Castlewellan Town	0

WOMEN'S CHALLENGE CUP FINALS

2013	Linfield Ladies	4	Glentoran/Belfast United	0
2014	Linfield Ladies	2	Glentoran/Belfast United	1
2015	Linfield Ladies	4	Glentoran/Belfast United	0
2016	Linfield Ladies	4	Cliftonville Ladies	3
2017	Glentoran Belfast Utd	14	East Belfast Ladies	0
2018	Cliftonville Ladies	1	Linfield Ladies	0
2019	Glentoran Women	2	Crusaders Strikers	1
2020	TROPHY WITHELD DUE TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC			
2021	Glentoran Women	4	Crusaders Strikers	3
After Extra Time and Penalties				
2022	Glentoran Women	3	Crusaders Strikers	1
2023	Cliftonville Women	6	Crusaders Strikers	0